

Pan Am security 'flawed' before and after Lockerbie

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

THE presidential commission examining the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie that killed 270 people on December 21, 1988, yesterday severely criticized both the airline and the US Federal Aviation Administration, saying the attack may well have been preventable.

The report — by two senators, two congressmen and three independent experts — describes the American civil aviation security system as seriously flawed, and calls for a thorough structural overhaul of a Federal Aviation Administration, which, it says, was preoccupied with responses to events to the exclusion of contingency planning against future threats.

It condemns Pan Am's "apparent security lapses" at both Frankfurt and Heathrow prior to and on the day of the bombing, and its failure to rectify these

for nine months after the disaster. The State Department is rebuked for being "unprepared to respond effectively and compassionately to the largest aviation terrorist disaster in US history".

The report says nine potentially relevant security warnings of possible terrorist attacks were issued in the six months leading up to the bombing, but it does not suggest that those should have been treated differently. In particular, the commission agreed that the authorities were probably right to treat as unreliable the so-called December 5 Helsinki warning that a Finnish woman would carry a bomb aboard a Pan Am flight from Frankfurt to the US within the next two weeks.

However, the panel cites four specific security lapses to support its contention that the disaster may have been preventable:

• Procedures for ensuring that each item of luggage on each leg of the flight was

reconciled with individual passengers were not strictly observed. When Pan Am 103 took off from both Frankfurt and Heathrow "no-one knew whether the plane was carrying an extra inter-line bag that had been checked through to Pan Am from another airline".

• Contrary to FAA regulations, unaccompanied baggage was only X-rayed, not hand-searched, at Frankfurt airport. Pan Am claimed it had verbal FAA approval for this, a charge the administration denied.

• Passenger screening procedures, designed to subject passengers conforming to an "identikit" terrorist suspect to additional checks, were not followed. At Frankfurt several passengers were not screened at all while others identified for further screening at the check-in counter were not checked as suggested at the gate.

• Pan Am baggage containers were not secured to prevent tampering as they

waited to be loaded on board Pan Am 103 at Heathrow.

An FAA inspection of Pan Am's security operations at Frankfurt two months before Lockerbie had found flaws and said "the system is being held together only by a very labour-intensive operation and the tenuous threads of luck".

In the two months after Lockerbie, the administration found "numerous security discrepancies" by Pan Am at both Frankfurt and Heathrow, but took no official action against the airline. Another inspection in May 1989 found there were still "major security violations" at Frankfurt, and a June FAA report concluded that while four other American airlines' operations were good, Pan Am's were "totally unsatisfactory". It concluded: "All passengers flying out of Frankfurt on Pan Am are at great risk." An unannounced August inspection found many of the problems

unrectified, and it was not until September, nine months after the tragedy, that the necessary action was taken. Pan Am was heavily fined by the FAA.

The commission established last August in response to repeated demands for action from victims' families, makes more than 60 recommendations aimed at preventing a repeat disaster.

It urges the US Government to plan and train for military strikes against known terrorist groups "to pre-empt or retaliate against their cowardly and despicable crimes". It was unacceptable always to have to await a criminal standard of proof before taking action; the US had to be prepared to regard some terrorist acts as "a matter of national security, and the terrorists had to pay a price for their conduct".

Where direct military strikes were unwise, covert operations should be launched, the commission says. It also urges the US to "work with other nations

of the free world to isolate politically, diplomatically and militarily, the handful of outlaw nations sponsoring terrorism".

On airport security, the commission recommends the restructuring of the FAA to include the appointment of an Assistant Secretary responsible for security and intelligence, and the upgrading of its security division. It also says a \$175 million (£104 million) project to install 150 thermal neutron analysis machines to detect explosives in baggage at 40 international airports should be deferred pending the "top priority" development of more effective machines.

Warnings of bomb threats against specific flights should be made generally available if published at all and given only to government personnel, as in the case of Pan Am 103. And where such precautions fail, relatives of victims of terrorism should receive swift and specific compensation.

Victims' relatives renew demands for inquiry in Britain

By Kerry Gill

THE father of a woman who died in the Lockerbie air crash yesterday welcomed the publication of the United States presidential commission report on the disaster. Dr Jim Swire, who is the spokesman for the relatives of Britons killed in the bombing, said the investigation emphasized the lack of a similar inquiry in Britain, but it was at least a "first rung on the ladder".

Dr Swire, whose 23-year-old daughter Flora died in the disaster, said: "It is interesting that this is the first major report that has come out and, in the UK, absolutely nothing has been done to meet the claims of the relatives that all was not right before Lockerbie."

He said the head of security for the Federal Aviation Administration in the United States had been dismissed and similar action should be taken against the Department of Transport's principal aviation security officer.

The report, issued last night by the Aviation Security and Terrorism Commission, recommended that the United States should consider military action against known terrorist bases prepared to attack innocent targets. If "pre-emptive or retaliatory" strikes were impossible, the report suggested that covert operations should be launched.

Dr Swire said: "Our group has always been against military action in retaliation for Lockerbie. I think that the

recommendations about pre-emptive strikes are a little different. Lockerbie was a revenge attack paid for by Iran. To kill Iranians and Syrians in return is only going to make the situation worse and produce more grieving families."

He said the F1-11 bombers that flew from Britain to attack Libyan targets "resulted in Gaddafi getting out of the terrorist scene for a number of years after the strike, so that did achieve a great deal and probably saved very many lives".

Sir Hector Munro, the Conservative MP for Dumfries, whose constituency covers Lockerbie, rejected the idea of pre-emptive strike. "I really don't think we, or the French or Germans or Americans, can start attacking other countries, presumably in the Middle East, on the suspicion a terrorist attack might take place. There would be a grave possibility of running into a war if you started doing that sort of thing," he said.

Sir Hector said the report would engender much interest in Lockerbie, but "at the moment we are concentrating on the rehabilitation of the town".

The Rev James Annand, minister of Dryfesdale parish church in Lockerbie, said yesterday: "I'm horrified at the commission's suggestion that the United States should consider launching military strikes. I'm afraid the Americans are prone to this sort of

thing. It is very sad. The suggestion was completely contrary to the view taken by the Moderator of the Church of Scotland, Professor James Whyte, in his address at the official memorial service in Lockerbie soon after the disaster. I think Professor Whyte was speaking for the majority of people in this country when he advocated that there should be no retaliation."

In his address Professor Whyte said of retaliation: "That way lies the endless cycle of violence upon violence, horror upon horror. And we may be tempted, indeed urged by some, to flex our muscles in response, to show that we are men. To show that we are prepared to let more young and more innocent die, to let more rescue workers labour in more wreckage to find the grisly proof, not of our virility, but of our inhumanity."

Mr John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, said that a British inquiry, similar to the US presidential commission's inquiry, must be held. The Department of Transport was "hiding its role in this matter. We are constantly in a cover-up."

President Bush intends to meet relatives of those killed in the Lockerbie disaster after studying the report, which criticizes the Federal Aviation Administration and Pan Am for security lapses before and after the bombing.



President Bush receiving the Lockerbie crash report from Ms Ann Dore McLaughlin, the commission chairman, at the White House yesterday

Race to find foolproof baggage check

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

A THERMAL neutron analysis (TNA) machine is to be installed at Gatwick early next month as part of a one-year experiment by the Department of Transport to find effective ways of screening passengers' bags. The large machine, brought by sea from Santa Clara, California, is being placed beyond the passenger check-in area.

Questions have been raised about its effectiveness, however, and many manufacturers including British companies are working on producing a lighter, faster and less expensive machine. A similar TNA machine has been in operation at John F Kennedy airport, New York, since September 1989. Another is

coming into service in Miami and a fourth will be installed at Dulles international airport, Washington, within the next few weeks.

Britain has been leading the way in attempting to find ways of screening passenger bags but so far no foolproof system has been devised. Airlines have now been ordered to put forward suggestions by the end of this month. Some favour screening the bags before the passengers enter the main terminal, others at the check-in area or the baggage area. One of the problems is finding space for the large number of machines needed and for the long queues of passengers that are expected to form.

One system already in use is random searching and X-rays but both are considered unsatisfactory. The TNA

machine has been found to react to the presence of wool in clothes and give off spurious warnings. Psychologists have even been called in to study the likely wool content among passengers' bags coming from different parts of the world. Those flying from warm climates to cold, or from cold to warm, are likely to contain different amounts of woolen garments, possibly triggering the machine to react incorrectly.

The Government remains committed, however, to finding an effective way of analysing automatically all passenger bags and an American company is using its British offshoot, AG & G Astrophysics of Windsor, to research a machine which they are convinced will be much more effective and could be on the market later this year.

Irish boost for women priests

Legislation to allow the Church of Ireland to ordain women to the priesthood and episcopate passed its first important hurdle yesterday when its General Synod, meeting in Dublin, gave the Bill a second reading by the required two-thirds majority. The Bill will need similar majorities tomorrow, when it comes back for the third reading, to become law.

Assuming it gets through, Ireland could have its first women priests by the end of this year. The Church of Ireland has five women deacons among its 600 clergy, and another four in training.

The vote in the order of clergy was 129 to 59, a majority of 68.6 per cent, and 242 to 61, a majority of 79.9 per cent, in the order of laity.

Doctor banned

Dr Catherine Scott, a psychiatrist aged 34, of Ashton-in-Makerfield, Greater Manchester, was banned from practising for three years yesterday by the disciplinary committee of the General Medical Council after admitting having a sexual relationship with a male patient aged 24.

Firefighter pay

The Fire Brigades' Union conference said last night that it would reconvene to recommend strike action to its 45,000 members if the formula which links pay to the top quartile of manual earnings was altered by the Government. Firefighters had an 8.6 per cent wage rise this year.

Welsh protest

A handful of Welsh nationalists staged a demonstration outside the £30 million Prince Philip Hospital at Llanelli, Dyfed, as the Duke of Edinburgh arrived to perform the opening yesterday. Protesters say the hospital should have been called Bryngwyn Mawr, the name of the locality.

Blood shortage

Operations at Cumbrian hospitals could be cancelled by the weekend because of a shortage of blood. The regional transfusion unit at Newcastle needs 1,000 extra donations to boost depleted stocks and has borrowed blood from other regional centres to maintain its services.

CORRECTION

Filofax has asked us to point out that a guide to pregnancy mentioned in the "Briefly" feature on May 2 is not published by the company.

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Assets in water case disputed

By Mark Souster

MR ANTHONY Scrivenor, QC, counsel for 15 local authorities that are defending an attempt to have a compensation claim for £3.25 billion struck out in the High Court, yesterday argued that ownership of assets was never transferred to the water authorities and their successor companies — only their

If ownership was transferred, however, then the local authorities who owned the assets prior to 1974, had an even stronger case for compensation.

On the second day of the application by the water companies to have the civil action struck out, Mr Scrivenor said Parliament could not have intended the assets, bought with public money, to be transferred without compensation. The assets, mainly land and buildings, were bought for public use and held in trust by the water companies.

The hearing continues today.

Government defence and intelligence experts remain keenly interested in establishing whether the gun would work and in unravelling the complex web of contracts involved in the project.

However, it is understood that British Customs officials, who have charged two Britons with attempting to export prohibited goods, are not liaising greatly with their foreign counterparts. An "international

Germans seize super-gun parts

By Quentin Cowdry and Ian Murray

THIRTY seven tonnes of machinery impounded in West Germany has been identified as being part of Iraq's suspected "super-gun" by the Ministry of Defence, which sent two experts to Frankfurt to inspect the consignment.

The disclosure that two British officials flew out to examine the parts suggests that the Defence Ministry is playing a key role in co-ordinating intelligence surrounding the "super-gun" affair which erupted last month when the barrel of the alleged 130 foot cannon was seized at Teesport, Cleveland.

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Slick reaches Devon coast

By Lin Jenkins

A BIG clean-up operation was being prepared last night to save wildlife habitats as oil sludge in a slick half a mile offshore began to wash up along the south Devon coast.

Deteriorating weather forced pollution experts to abandon the off-shore operation to sweep up the emulsified oil. Steel tubing connecting their three ships broke free and they had to take shelter in Plymouth Sound.

The first oil ashore was spotted on rocks at Gara Point, a headland near Bigbury Bay, east of Plymouth, just before 6pm. No attempt to remove it will be made. As volunteers kept lookout for the first signs of sludge on the beaches, a computer prediction suggested that 500 tonnes of the sludge, containing 30 per cent oil, would come ashore overnight along a 20-mile stretch of Bigbury Bay. The Marine Pollution Con-

trol Unit had hoped to avoid serious pollution on the coast by attacking the slick at sea. Since the spillage on Saturday, 800 tonnes have been dispersed by aerial bombings of detergent, or swept up at sea. Conservation groups say the oil, and some of the methods used to clean it up, will cause serious damage to shore life, such as crabs and barnacles, and pollute the rare salt marshes up the river estuaries. Contingency plans to place booms across the estuaries of the Avon and Erme to prevent the sludge getting up-stream were being carried out last night.

Villagers

Rapists killed gets life sentence

Rapist who killed girl gets life sentence

By Peter Davenport

A MAN who raped and then stabbed a girl aged nine before dumping her body on a makeshift bonfire was sentenced to life imprisonment for her murder at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday.

John Heeley, aged 31, an unemployed labourer, had a long criminal history and a string of convictions, the court was told. He fled a nationwide hunt by travelling to France but was arrested several days later as he returned by ferry from Boulogne to Dover.

Heeley, of no fixed address, had denied murdering Annette Wade at her home village of Carleton, between Blackpool and Poulton-le-Fylde, on July 18 last year. The jury took two hours to find him guilty.

Mr Justice Kennedy told Heeley: "You have been convicted on overwhelming evidence of murdering a nine-year-old child. Even if it were not compulsory for me to do so, I would have no hesitation in sentencing you to prison for life. That is the sentence which I impose."

The court had been told that Annette's parents, Mr Brian Wade and his wife Mary, were careful never to let their daughter play out until they moved from Blackpool to the quiet village eight months before Annette was killed.

Mr Wade, aged 41, and his wife of Blackpool Old Road, Carleton, were close to tears as they left the court after watching Heeley being led impassively from the dock to begin his sentence. Mr Wade had been in court throughout the trial but Mrs Wade, aged 42, arrived only to hear the verdict.

Mr Wade said: "I did not want my wife to come every day but she was determined to be with me for the summing up and for the end."

Mrs Wade said: "We warned Annette 24 hours before this happened not to talk to strangers. She always wore a 'don't talk to strangers' badge." Both she and her husband said that Heeley had checked.

Awards to young reporters

By Douglas Broom
Education Reporter

THE next generation of journalists must resist the temptation of sitting at computer screens and taking news from agency wires instead of seeing events at first hand, Miss Valerie Singleton, the broadcaster, told school newspaper reporters in London yesterday.

Miss Singleton was speaking at the presentation of awards at The Times/Tandem International Newspaper Day at the Science Museum, for which almost 200 school newspapers entered.

The school-age journalists had just one day to produce their newspapers using stories from The Times' computerized news system relayed to schools through the Campus 2000 network. The best newspaper award, with a top prize of a Tandem PCA computer and £175 worth of software, was won by Primary Press, produced by pupils at Linlithgow Primary School, Lothian. The judges praised its professional and lively appearance.

A similar prize was awarded to The King's Herald, produced by the King's School, Worcester, for best newspaper in the secondary school category.

The international section was won by Das Papier from Kooperative Gesamtschule Elmschorn, a school in Elmschorn, West Germany, which was commended for its imaginative use of newspaper design techniques. The Times newspaper day reporter award was won by Miss Alexandra Pryde, aged 18, of Ravensbourne School, Bromley, Kent, for a feature on British Satellite Broadcasting.

Brickbats fly in the battle for tiny building society

By Jamie Dettmer

ANDY Warhol's prediction that everyone will be famous for 15 minutes has suddenly come annoyingly true for inhabitants of the Somerset market town of Frome.

A chap can hardly approach its George Hotel, in search of a pint of Wadsworth's best bitter without being waylaid by a television crew or newspaper journalists and asked to pronounce on the issue of the moment: should the Frome Selwood Building Society merge with the only slightly larger Stroud & Swindon Building Society instead of the much larger Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society? "Maybe it should, maybe it shouldn't" is the most frequent reply.

But not since the celebrated Election Riot of December 1832 has this town of 23,000 seen such heat. In 1832, a Troop of the Seventh Dragoons was sent in to calm things. Nowadays, it is a telephone call from the Building Societies Commission demanding a halt to the harsh words between societies.

The issue has dominated the front page of the Somerset Standard, Frome's weekly newspaper, for months. Tomorrow, the 9,000 members of the Frome Selwood, which has one branch and assets of £47 million, will vote on the proposed merger by post or at a meeting in the town's cinema.

Eighty per cent of members live in Frome. There seems little opposition to a merger; the issue is whether the board should be rejecting an offer by the C & G, the seventh-largest society in Britain, and backing the S & S.

The C & G offers Frome members a 3 per cent bonus on deposits, instead of the 2 per cent offered by the S & S. The board's opponents, led by Mr Trevor Morris, a local farmer, claim that the directors only want to go with the S & S because they have been offered better personal terms.

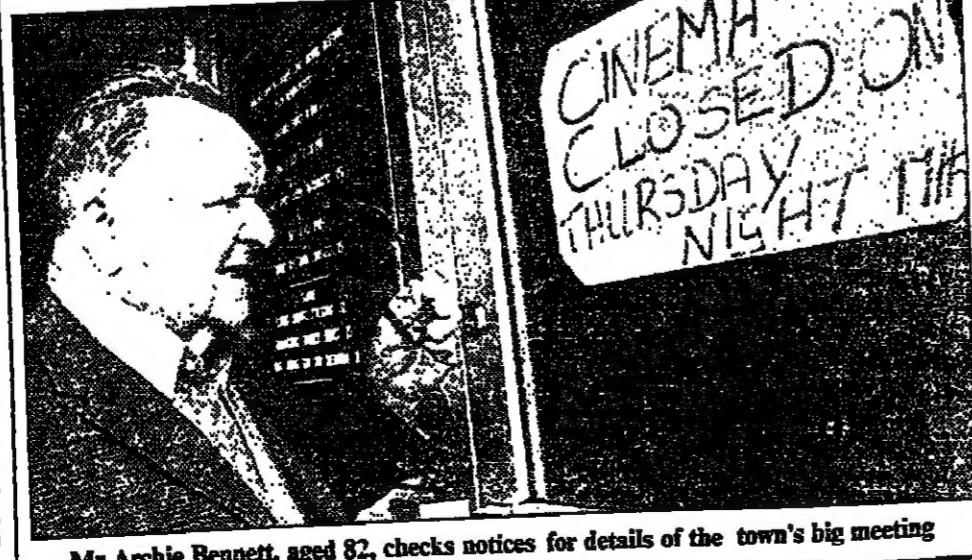
"Grossly untrue," says its chairman, Mr Roy Walwin.

"The Cheltenham & Gloucester offered us much better terms. You've heard of the unacceptable face of capitalism? Well, the Cheltenham and Gloucester is the unacceptable face of building societies. Oh dear, the commission will probably phone to complain."

Mr Walwin's board argues that the S & S should be backed because it is based only 40 miles from Frome.

The local paper predicts that the board's view will not gain the 75 per cent majority needed. The directors remain confident of victory.

ADRIAN BROOKS



Mr Archie Bennett, aged 82, checks notices for details of the town's big meeting

Villagers sell up to escape roaring jets

By Craig Seton

AN AIRLINE captain who flew Concorde, one of the world's noisiest passenger aircraft, is among villagers from an Oxfordshire community who are selling their homes to the Ministry of Defence and moving to escape the deafening roar of military jets using a neighbouring American air force base.

The twin villages of Ardley and Fewcott, near Bicester, have been divided, literally, by the noise of aircraft taking off and landing at RAF Upper Heyford and by the ministry's scheme to buy out the homes of residents living where the noise level exceeds a minimum decibel level of 83.

While many of the homes in Ardley qualify for the buy-out scheme, however, villagers in adjoining Fewcott are ex-

cluded because the noise of F-111 fighter bombers is judged to fall below the specified level. A farmer who is desperate to sell up and leave with his family claimed that the ministry had drawn an arbitrary line between the communities on the basis of decibel readings and that homes in Fewcott were now unsaleable and, in effect, blighted.

Numerous homes in Ardley, a pretty village of Cotswold stone to the east of the base, are empty and boarded up after 14 households sold to the ministry. Another 15 are negotiating to sell, including the owners of the local store, and there are fears that it will become a "ghost village". Some houses have been offered for rent to American servicemen.

One of those still negotiating is Captain Kit Green, aged 44, of British Airways, who was a Concorde co-pilot

and has lived in Ardley with his wife, Sue, for 14 years. They want to sell their 17th-century farmhouse, which has 12 acres, but the ministry has not agreed with the couple's £500,000 valuation.

Captain Green, who now trains pilots, said noise from aircraft taking off from the base became much worse in June 1988 when the flight path was changed on safety grounds.

Mr Peter Godwin and his wife, Julie, who live at Manor Farm, Fewcott, said

their £250,000 home was only half a mile from the end of the base runway but the decibel level there had been measured at 78 and fell below the qualifying figure.

He claimed the ministry had drawn up an average figure, which did not represent the peak of aircraft noise.

Parliament, page 8



Shane Field, aged three, from Charlton, south London, tries on a Second World War Air Raid Patrol helmet helped by Mr Morris Freedman, aged 68, from Sidcup, at the Age Exchange Reminiscence Centre, Blackheath, where the elderly regale children with tales of their youth

Inaction claim on paedophile scare

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

LABOUR Party accusations that the Government has done nothing to counter the recent spate of attempted child-snatches by bogus social workers were rejected yesterday by the Prime Minister.

Mr Philip Tomlinson, the coroner, asked him if he felt the pilots of the M1 crash jet taken the right action. "No sir. The correct action was to throttle back the engine."

Mr Tomlinson asked him

whether the aircraft would

have been able to land prop

erly if they had identified the

correct engine as the one

causing the problem. "If the

first engine to have been

throttled back had been the

left engine, there is no evi

dence that there was any

further hazard to the aircraft

being flown to a safe landing

using the serviceable right

engine," Mr Payling said.

The inquest was told that

Captain Kevin Hunt had a

total of 7,000 hours' experi

ence, 740 of which were on a

Boeing 737-300 but only 23 on

the 400 series that crashed. Mr

David McClelland, the first

officer, had a total of 193

hours on jet aircraft, 140 of

which were on 737-300s and

53 on 400s.

Mr Thatcher replied: "You

know full well that everyone

in this House is doing their

level best to stop child abuse."

Police investigating the in

cident were yesterday check

ing the alleged identities of

men and women involved

(Peter Davenport writes).

Since a conference of 18

forces in Sheffield on Monday,

South Yorkshire police said it

had received about 100 calls

from the public responding to

the photofit pictures of four

women and a man in some of

the 60 cases around the

country.

A fair-haired woman im

personating a social worker

called at a house in Wantage,

Oxfordshire, yesterday but

had the door slammed in her

face by a nanny after showing

inadequate identification. She

was aged about 40.

A fresh warning was issued

to mothers of young children

in Humberside yesterday as

police appealed for help in

locating a bogus woman

health visitor.

The grey-haired, plump

woman in her forties, 5ft 5in

tall, wore a bright green

costume, brown wedge-heel shoes

and carried a cream shopping

bag. She told a mother of three

children all aged under five in

Hull on Monday that she had

replaced the former visitor

who had left. The woman left

hurriedly when she was chal

lenged by the mother, who

then alerted the police.

Railmen 'at fault in fatal crash'

By Kerry Gill

THE actions of a train driver and a guard contributed to an accident that killed two people and injured 54 outside Bellgrove Station, Glasgow, last year, an official accident report said yesterday.

The report, however, also called for a review of operating procedures and driver performance by British Rail in the wake of the head-on crash of two suburban electric trains at Bellgrove Junction.

Mr Robin Seymour, chief inspecting officer of railways, and Mr Arwyn Williams, principal inspector in Glasgow, said that an Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system should be installed to prevent trains passing danger signals.

In the crash, on March 6, 1989, Mr Hugh Keenan, aged 62, one of the drivers, and Mr Robert McCafferty, aged 58, a passenger, were killed.

The inspectors attached no blame to Mr Keenan, driver of the west-bound Springfield-to-Milngavie train, but said of the east-bound Milngavie-to-Springburn train: "We conclude that the immediate cause of the accident was that Driver [Joe] McCafferty drove the up-train past the starting signal at Bellgrove Station, at danger. Contributory causes were that Guard [Robert] Bain signalled the driver that the train was ready to start, without having first checked the aspect of the starting signal."

The inspectors doubted that the BR rule book was "sufficiently clear as to the relative responsibilities of driver and guard", and said that there was no other effective safeguard against a train passing a danger signal.

A form of ATP exists on the London Underground, and British Rail is planning to introduce a system for mainline services.

Mr Jim Summers, Scotrail's operations manager, said: "British Rail contracts worth £10 million have been awarded to develop and supply two pilot automatic train protection systems. Scotrail is looking closely at the wording in the rule book and at the arrangements to monitor the performance of drivers."

The Director of Public Prosecutions has decided that no proceedings should be taken against anyone over a train crash in April last year, at Holton Heath, near Poole, Dorset, in which Mr Ronald Brooker, aged 47, was killed when the locomotive he was driving crashed into the rear of a freight train.

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HANDCRAFTED BY THE SIXTEEN MEN OF TAIN.

Fear of the unknown feeds public concern over BSE safety

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture Correspondent

THE most worrying thing about "mad cow" disease, whose spectre is stalking the British cattle industry, is not what we know about it, but what we still do not know. The experts disagree so it is no wonder that the layman is confused. There may be no firm evidence of a risk to humans but equally there is no clear evidence to the contrary and there may not be for some years.

This leaves the Government facing a dilemma: how far should it go in taking precautions, which at one extreme would require the destruction of the majority of British cattle, against risks which are largely still no more than conjecture and may turn out to be non-existent? What follows is an attempt to summarize the present state of knowledge.

What is bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)?

BSE is a fatal brain disease of cattle. It can be incubated for five years or more. Visible symptoms, which include aggressive behaviour and unsteadiness of gait, appear only in the terminal stages. There is no means yet of testing for certain whether a live animal has the condition or is carrying the agent. This can be

confirmed only by a post-mortem examination of the brain under powerful electron microscopes which show sponge-like holes and tell-tale "fibres" in the tissue. The first case of BSE was diagnosed in late 1985 and the disease has been confirmed in some 13,100 cattle since then. New cases are being reported at a rate of 200-250 a week. Nearly all are cows. No case of cow-to-calf transmission of the disease in the womb has yet been reported but some experts think it may be possible.

How did cattle get BSE?

The working party headed by Sir Richard Southwood, Linacre Professor of Zoology at Oxford University, which reported to the Government in February last year, cited high-protein feed containing the remains of sheep infected with scrapie as the most likely cause. That has been accepted by most other scientists.

Scrapie, the name for spongiform encephalopathy in sheep, has been around for at least 200 years. Post-war intensive farming methods led to the inclusion of significant quantities of sheep material in feed concentrate for cattle. Professor Southwood also suggested that changes in the early 1980s in the methods used to process sheep waste

may have made it easier for the scrapie agent to survive.

Why has BSE appeared only in the British Isles?

Most experts think it is likely that BSE does exist elsewhere but has not yet been reported or diagnosed.

What is the agent that causes BSE?

One of the main problems is that the causative agent has not yet been identified. "We loosely call it a virus, but it is not a virus in any normal sense of the term," according to Dr David Tyrrell, the Medical Research Council virologist who chairs an advisory committee on BSE set up by the Government. "If only we could understand the nature of the beast, we could get a molecular handle on it and use modern methods to control it. Work on identifying the agent has to be one of the main priorities for research." One theory is that the organism is some kind of rogue protein that takes over the cells of living matter.

Do other animals get it?

Forms of spongiform encephalopathy have occurred naturally, or been induced in the laboratory, in species including antelope, mice, goats, mink and cats.

Can human beings catch it?

A related illness, Creutzfeld-Jakob

Disease (CJD), kills about 30 people a year in England and Wales. Tribesmen in New Guinea have contracted another form of the condition, called *kuru*, through cannibalism. The incidence of CJD is largely the same in all countries where it occurs, including those free of scrapie. There is even a recorded case of the disease in a life-long vegetarian. Human exposure to scrapie in sheep over at least 200 years thus does not appear generally to have increased the frequency of the illness.

What worries scientists is the possibility that humans may be less resistant to BSE because the causative agent may have undergone some kind of change in moving from sheep to cattle, a transfer considered to be unlikely until it happened. Work is being done on marmoset monkeys, which have a nervous system similar to that of humans, to see if they can be infected by injecting BSE-contaminated tissue into their brains. A long-term programme to monitor more closely the incidence of CJD has also begun. Most scientists agree that the risk of BSE being transmissible to humans is "remote".

Is British beef safe to eat?

The Government insists that it is. All cattle which show BSE symptoms must be destroyed. As an extra precaution, bovine offal containing brain, spinal cord tissue, spleen, thymus, tonsils and intestines is banned for human consumption and must be stripped out of carcasses at the slaughterhouse. The infective agent is thought to travel through these organs in the early stages of the disease, when no outward symptoms are visible, before ending up in the brain. Professor Richard Lacey, the Leeds University microbiologist, argues that this is not enough because the infective agent might be lurking in nerve tissue in the meat itself and not just the offal.

He argues that wherever a case of BSE is diagnosed the entire herd should be destroyed, a policy which would wipe out half the national cattle population. The scientific consensus is that such extreme action would not be justified.

There is concern, however, that slaughterhouse workers may not be as careful as they should be in removing offal.

Has the Government done all it should?

Many experts think the Government has responded too slowly and would like to see a number of possible loopholes

closed. BSE was declared a notifiable disease a full 18 months after it was first diagnosed. The suspect offals were banned only last November and those from animals under six months old can still be sold for human consumption because it is assumed that the disease cannot develop in so short a time. Only now is the Government reconsidering whether it should cull the offspring of BSE-infected cows to guard against the possibility that the disease can be maternally transmitted. There is no formal ban on the use of sheep and other animal protein in feed for pigs, poultry, cats and dogs. Manufacturers say they are observing a voluntary ban on the use of offals condemned for human consumption which do not include those from sheep.

How soon can BSE be eradicated?

If feed containing sheep protein, which has been banned since July 1988, was the cause, and if those animals which ate it are the "dead-end hosts", then the last cases of BSE should occur in the mid-1990s. However, if the disease proves to be transmissible from cow to calf – on the model of scrapie, which can pass from ewes to lambs – then BSE could be with us for ever.

Managers go in new wave of dismissals

By Tim Jones, Employment Correspondent

MANAGERS were put in the front line of redundancy with the announcement yesterday that 900 posts are to go at BHS, the former British Home Stores chain.

More than 12,000 jobs in the past month have now been shed throughout British industry as companies "rationalize" their trading positions and unions ignore government warnings that high wage demands will lead to unemployment.

The trend comes in the wake of a Confederation of British Industry warning earlier this month that 54,000 jobs, 18,000 a month, would disappear in the next three months as British manufacturers struggled to remain competitive in the face of rising costs.

With government figures to be released tomorrow expected to show a decline in the number of jobs being created, the announcement of BHS redundancies points to a "huge rationalization" of middle management.

Mr David Dworkin, chairman of Storehouse, the parent company, said: "Over the recent years BHS has been too bureaucratic and top-heavy and this has got in the way of service to our customers."

In Scotland yesterday, Anderson Longwall, a division of the mining and tunnelling equipment manufacturers, Anderson Group, announced that it is to make up to 90 of its office, managerial and ancillary staff redundant at its Motherwell and Shiffield plants.

While the retail and service sector is clearly in the forefront of the new wave of redundancies, job losses are now affecting the whole strata of society from coal face miners to estate agents as companies trim staff to face increasingly hostile market conditions.

Although some companies, such as BP, use the jargon – "reducing organizational complexity" – to soften the

City speculation, page 23

IRA bomb might have been set at weekend

By Stewart Tandler
Crime Correspondent

THE IRA time bomb which exploded at the Army's directorate of education at Eltham, south-east London, might have been planted during the weekend when the site was closed, Scotland Yard said yesterday.

As officers continued to search the scene, Scotland Yard again urged the public to come forward with any information or suspicious sightings in the area. The Yard's anti-terrorist branch is waiting for details from forensic scientists on the type of timer used in the bomb.

At weekends, the directorate's offices are locked but not guarded apart from checks by visiting guards. Police said that the IRA had used weekends to carry out other attacks. Burying a bomb is a common terrorist ploy in Northern Ireland but one never before used on mainland Britain.

One of the biggest employment blows was delivered earlier this month when British Telecom announced a sweeping restructuring which will lead to the departure between 4,000 and 5,000 of its managerial and professional workforce, earning £20,000 to £30,000, after "an internal strategic review".

Last week, Imperial Tobacco, Britain's second largest cigarette manufacturer, announced it was cutting 1,200 jobs as part of a move to defend its market position and compete effectively after tax changes in the European market.

He said: "I just remember working at my desk with a bit of sunshine coming through the window. Suddenly I woke up to an enormous nightmare. My colleagues found me under a pile of rubble."

In the car industry, Ford said it would shed 2,800 jobs over five years at its Halewood plant on Merseyside as part of a drive to meet Japanese competition and Rover announced plans to lay off 1,200 workers because of disappointing sales of the 800 Sterling range.

In the property industry, more jobs were lost as high mortgage rates continued to depress the market. Prudential Corporation, the largest institutional owner of property in the UK, shed 120 of its 380 property team, joining a long list of related concerns that have cut staff.

In South Wales, British Coal closed the Blaenavon pit, which normally houses 400 Commandos. The ministry said that the perimeter of the camp was patrolled but it did not know when the hole was cut.

Nothing was discovered in a search of the camp, which normally houses 400 Commandos. The ministry said that the perimeter of the camp was patrolled but it did not know when the hole was cut.

Nothing was discovered in a

Family's forgotten silver up for sale

DES JENSON

FOUR pieces of silver that lay unclaimed in a bank vault for over a century are expected to make up to £950,000 at Christie's in London on May 23 (John Shaw writes).

A basin, ewer and pair of Queen Anne wine coolers were originally part of the display and ambassadorial plate of Thomas Wentworth, Baron Raby and third Earl of Strafford (1672-1739), a distinguished soldier and diplomat. A descendant deposited them in strong boxes at Glynn Mills and Co, Lombard Street in 1859. However, both he and his executor died shortly afterwards. The bank tried unsuccessfully to trace other descendants.

A century later, a member of the family claimed the silver and a descendant of the claimant is selling the pieces at auction. The sale comes as interest in silver is growing. A 17th-century Sicilian table fountain made \$1.98 million (£1.2 million), a record for any piece of silver, in New York on April 19.

The group on offer was made by David Willaume (1658-1741) a leading Huguenot craftsman. The ewer and 26in diameter basin date from 1705. Each bears the royal arms with engraving attributed to John Rollis (£400,000-£600,000). The heavily decorated coolers bear the arms of Wentworth and Johnson and date from 1710 (£250,000-£350,000).

Every amateur coin collector dream came true yesterday for two enthusiasts who saw a hoard of 324 12th-century silver coins sell for £26,037 at Christie's in London.

Mr Mervyn Bone, aged 27, a carpenter and Mr Russell Chamberlin, aged 55, an electrician, both of Norwich, found the pennies, halfpennies and farthings while metal detecting on a farm near Wymondham, Norfolk, in April last year.

The coins were part of a group of 482. The British Museum has acquired 158. It will pay the men the market price for them assessed by an independent tribunal. The coins come from the reigns of Henry I, Stephen and Henry II.

The star of the coin sale, however, was a rare proof 20 yen Japanese coin by Mutsuhito (1867-1912). It has a dragon design on one side, a sunburst on the other and more than doubled its high estimate to go to an anonymous telephone bidder for £104,500.

As security was tightened at bases around the country after the explosion, a Royal Marines camp at Norton Manor, Somerset, was put on alert yesterday after a marine found a hole big enough for a man to get through cut in the perimeter fence.

Nothing was discovered in a search of the camp, which normally houses 400 Commandos. The ministry said that the perimeter of the camp was patrolled but it did not know when the hole was cut.

Nothing was discovered in a



Miss Franca da Mosto of Christie's with three of the unclaimed pieces to be sold

BBC urged to show poll

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

THE chairman of the Conservative party yesterday demanded that the BBC should broadcast a poll which apparently showed support for Mrs Thatcher's leadership but was not transmitted as expected.

Mr Kenneth Baker wrote to the BBC requesting that the results of the poll on the party leadership, carried out among 268 Conservative councillors, be broadcast on next Sunday's

edition of the BBC1 programme *On the Record*.

In his letter to Mr Michael Checkland, director general of the BBC, Mr Baker said that the poll had shown "extremely favourable attitudes" towards the Prime Minister's leadership and that those questioned had been told the results would appear in *On the Record* on May 6.

The findings of the poll, carried out by Harris Research

Centre, had not been broadcast and the BBC's explanation had been that the sample size was not sufficient. Mr Baker said this had been categorically denied by Harris.

The poll was carried out immediately after the local government elections earlier this month.

Conservative MPs complained that the BBC had suppressed the poll and was guilty of political bias.

Woman dies in food scare

A woman has died and four people are ill after an outbreak of suspected food poisoning at a home for the elderly in Walsall, West Midlands. The residents fell ill on the same day last week.

Walsall Health Authority said that salmonella poisoning was the most likely cause of the outbreak, which seemed to have been contained. Samples of food have been taken for analysis and investigations are continuing.

Diesel down

Shell is to cut the price of diesel by 3.2p a gallon from tomorrow, from an average of 178.7p to 175.5p, because of lower international prices. Other oil companies are expected to follow suit.

Man survives

A man who jumped in front of a train on the Birmingham-Leamington line yesterday survived after the train's life-guard mechanism, which shifts debris from the track, pushed him into the middle of the lines allowing the train to go straight over him.

Drought fine

Tinsley (Branston) Farms, of Branston, Lincolnshire, was fined £2,000 at Lincoln Crown Court yesterday after admitting illegally taking water from a river during last summer's drought.

Guiding hands

Hundreds of girls may have to quit the Guide movement in Nottinghamshire because of a shortage of leaders. A spokeswoman said: "The problem is that women these days have less time to devote to interests outside work and the home."

Cats set free

The Animal Liberation Front has said that it stole two Scottish wildcats from Paignton Zoo, Devon, and has released them in the Highlands. The zoo said that the animals, bred in captivity, will not survive in the wild.

Sailor lands

Mr Henk de Velde arrived in Falmouth, Cornwall, yesterday after sailing single-handed around the world on a diet of muesli. His 159-day trip was, however, nine days outside the record. He is looking forward to a good meal.

Extracts from the Prince of Wales' speech



The Prince of Wales yesterday: "Old age could be the final, glorious, concluding paragraph"

viewed not only as a challenge but also as a marvellous opportunity to tap skills, experience, enthusiasm and a wealth of available spare time to recognize that elderly people are needed as well as in need: are caring as well as cared for and, above all, have an invaluable and continuing contribution to make to the quality of life.

Millions of people can enjoy a long last phase of life, free of those normal adult commitments. I was staggered to learn that their number in the UK is

work and raising a family, the Third Age of active independence and the Fourth Age of dependence, and dignity.

But for many people the Third Age offers an interesting opportunity, the pursuit of choice. And the challenge is, in part, how do we offer these millions some opportunity to find the right mix of leisure with constructive and worthwhile activity? How to provide a chance for third agers to realize their best self and to appreciate the dynamic of old age instead of, as so often, mourning its distresses?

The paradox is that at the very moment when this grand abundance of choice opens up, participation in all kinds of activities, from educational courses to going for a walk, drops staggeringly. People often do little or nothing. They act out the role in which society has cast them.

But we need a much greater initiative to encourage more, many more, to become involved in the many fields where volunteers could make a considerable contribution. There is a magnificent opportunity to stop seeing age in mainly negative terms. I fear that this could blind us to the needs of those many who have not been able to cash in on the growth of property values or the benefit of improved pensions. There is a very real risk that the less fortunate will be left behind.

I rather like the categories devised by Peter Laslett based on status, with the human life span being divided into four: the First Age of childhood and schooling, the Second Age of

Employers accused of undermining sixth forms

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

EMPLOYERS who undervalue educational qualifications are partly to blame for the fact that fewer teenagers stay on at school after 16 in Britain than in any other European country, according to two surveys published yesterday.

The lure of a good salary and ignorance about the benefits of remaining in full-time education after 16 were also highlighted by researchers who interviewed 700 teenagers and 100 employers in the London Docklands.

The surveys, conducted by MORI and the Research and Statistics Branch of the former Inner London Education Authority, found that while more than two-thirds of teenagers said they wanted to stay on after 16 only two-fifths actually did so.

Most of those who left school at 16 said they were motivated by the need to earn a salary. Two thirds had little idea about what would be on offer if they entered the sixth form or went to college. While

two-thirds of teenagers thought that qualifications were the most important factor in gaining a job, three-quarters of employers rated appearance, enthusiasm, punctuality and the ability to speak well as more important.

As well as placing little value on educational qualifications, two-thirds of employers offered no training to school leavers and only an eighth had any links with their local schools.

The studies found that the highest staying-on rates were among Afro-Caribbean teenagers (91 per cent) and those from Asian backgrounds (82 per cent). White children were the least likely to stay on after 16 (55 per cent).

The most powerful inducement to remain in the education system, the survey found, was a "role model", in the shape of a friend or relative who had stayed on at school or college. Among teenagers who knew personally someone who had been to polytechnic or university, 85 per cent stayed on at school.

The surveys did, however, provide support for the development of "Compacts" in which employers guarantee jobs to teenagers in return for good examination performance, regular school attendance and satisfactory behaviour.

In six schools in Tower Hamlets, which joined the original London Compact launched by the Prince of Wales in 1987, the staying-on rate had since risen from 35.6 per cent to 52 per cent. Compacts are now being actively promoted by ministers as part of the Government's strategy for inner cities.

Mr Peter Box, chairman of the London Education Business Partnership, which coordinates the six Compact schemes in London, said the surveys showed there was no room for complacency. He urged teachers and businesses to do all in their power to encourage pupils aged 16 to take advantage of educational opportunities.

Less able children are being let down by schools and often turn to truancy and vandalism because they believe there is nothing to keep them in the classroom, a conference of industrialists was told yesterday.

Professor Alan Smithers, of Manchester University's School of Education, told a Confederation of British Industry conference in London that many teenagers unable to keep up with academic demands were rebelling against the system. Schools would have to review their lessons if the problem were to be resolved.

He said: "Involving young people more in education and training would be good for them, good for the country — and good, ultimately, for the supply of graduates."

Schools should put more emphasis on vocational skills, he said. "It is hoped that the academic and the vocational would grow together into a common framework, breaking down the current snobbish attitude to vocational qualifications and hopefully moving towards parity of esteem."

Young drinkers get identity card

By Quentin Cowdry
Home Affairs Correspondent

A NATIONAL "proof of age" identity card scheme to deter under-age drinking and to help licensees to stay within the law was launched in London and six regional cities yesterday.

The scheme has the support of the police and the Government as well as 95 per cent of brewers, the Licensed Victuellers' Association and 23 large off-licence and supermarket chains. The project's sponsor, the Portman Group, has the support of eight leading drinks firms. They accepted, however, that the scheme was not a panacea for the problem of under-age drinking, believed by some experts to have links with teenage crime and alcoholism among adults.

Alcohol Concern said that there was an equally pressing need for the drinks industry to produce more "responsible" advertising and for its products to be taxed more highly.

About half a dozen card schemes already operating are expected to be swallowed up by the national card scheme. Some 111,000 licensees have been supplied with application forms for the cards and 1,500 have already been issued. The issue of the cards,



Dr John Rae: Solution lies not in moral panic

each stamped with the holder's photograph, name and date of birth, is being monitored by a computer programmed to check for incorrect or repeat applications.

Launching the scheme, Dr John Rae, the Portman Group's director, said the relatively small number of prosecutions for under-age drinking — about 700 last year — gave a misleading picture of the true scale of the problem.

He said that the solution lay with determined, consistent counter-measures, not "moral panic". Although surveys showed that most youngsters had tried alcohol at least once by the age of 12, only a minority drank to excess.

Conflict on opera debt is settled

By Simon Tait
Arts Correspondent

THE dispute over the Royal Opera House's plan for a second year of deficit funding so that it is more than £5 million in the red, has been defused.

In announcing the company's 1990-91 programme, Mr Jeremy Isaacs, general director of the Royal Opera House, said it would not compromise artistic standards by making further cuts, and that it would go £2 million into deficit, on top of last year's £3.3 million. Mr Peter Palumbo, the Arts Council chairman, responded by writing to the Royal Opera House chairman, Lord Sainsbury, saying the council would not commit funds to any organization that deliberately "spent itself into deficit".

But yesterday, Mr Anthony Everitt, acting secretary-general of the Arts Council, said: "We have been given useful reassurances." The Royal Opera House had made "swinging cuts" to keep the 1990-91 deficit to £2 million.

The Arts Council and the Opera House board were working together to find a solution to the problem. Other "flagship" clients, such as the Royal Shakespeare Company and the English National Opera, faced similar worries.



Elly Waller (left) and Molly Withers, both aged three, meet Jane Oliver portraying a 1760 socialite, a Macaroni, in 'The Picture Parade' in Soho yesterday held to mark the progress of The Spirit of Soho Mural, to be sited beside the Soho Street Theatre

Curb on legal aid options sparks protest

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

GOVERNMENT plans to deny defendants the freedom to choose whether to be represented by a barrister or a solicitor in legal aid cases came under attack yesterday from legal and consumer groups.

In a protest marked by its wide support from across the profession — the Bar, the Law Society and the Legal Action Group — the Government was warned it was creating a second-class service for those on legal aid.

The Government has tabled an amendment to the Courts and Legal Services Bill which allows legal aid representation, even in higher court cases, to be limited to one lawyer. The move, the most controversial since the Bill started its passage in the House of Commons, reverses the effect of a change secured in the House of Lords by Lord Mishcon, which was designed to ensure that reforms which allow solicitors to take cases in the higher courts would not be used to deny legal-aid clients the right in crown court cases to be represented by a barrister if they choose.

Mr David Ward, the President of the Law Society, said that the aim of the Bill was to widen choice. The Government's amendment, however, "is an attempt to restrict the choice of the legally-aided client and to put him at a disadvantage, compared with the privately-funded one".

Mr Peter Cresswell, QC, chairman of the Bar, said that the amendment would "condemn to a second-class service those who cannot afford to pay for their legal representation". The right to a barrister on legal aid was essential.

He said that if the amendment was not withdrawn, the Bar would join the Law Society and the consumer groups to urge the Commons committee now examining the Bill to defeat the amendment.

Criticism of the Government's move, in an amendment tabled by the Attorney General, also came from the Consumers' Association, which said the aim of the Bill was to give the consumer the widest possible choice of legal services. The amendment was a cost-cutting device that would reduce choice.

The Lord Chancellor's Department denied, however, that the move was designed to save money. "We are not reducing the amount of legal aid, just ensuring legal aid is used cost-effectively," it said.

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Life after the Cabinet

Former ministers cash in with City directorships

ONCE the demands of high office end, either voluntarily or at the hand of the Prime Minister, more lucrative pastures in the world of business await many ministers with Cabinet experience.

Having wrestled, successfully or not, with the nation's problems, politicians have proved in demand to adorn many a company board, provide a smooth entrée to the corridors of power in Whitehall and offer experience on the workings of Westminster.

The rewards can be large, although there has been criticism among opposition MPs at the speed with which former ministers are swapping a chair around the Cabinet table for seats on company boards. Just 10 days after leaving the Government, it has been announced that Mr Peter Walker, the former Secretary of State for Wales, is to join the board of a City securities firm as a non-executive director.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, joined Barclays Bank as a director and part-time consultant for an estimated salary of more than £100,000 three months after quitting the Government. Sir Norman Fowler became a non-executive director of Everset, a quarrying firm, 10 weeks after leaving the Government.

It is not all plain sailing. Mr Lord Tebbit became a non-executive director of Blue Arrow, a company later engulfed in crisis. Mr Michael Jopling is, according to the *Register of Members' Interests*, a consultant to Atlantic Computers, the failed subsidiary of British Commonwealth.

For others, rich in their own right, there is little need for extra remuneration from the City. Into that category must fall Mr Paul Channon, heir to part of the Guinness fortune, Lord Whitelaw, a wealthy landowner, and Mr Michael Heseltine, consultant to the multi-million pound Haymarket Publishing Group, of which he was a founder.

From the current issues of *Directory of Directors*, *Who's Who*, and *Register of Members' Interests*, the boardroom is clearly an attractive proposition for former ministers:

Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, 1982-87, MP for North Shropshire. Non-executive director of Glynwod International, Birmingham engineering company, since 1987; non-executive director, E. Batty and Son since March 1988; non-executive director of Rockware Group, packaging company, since 1988.

Sir Les Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, 1985-86. Vice-President of European Commission since 1989. After leaving the Cabinet and before he went to Brussels, Sir Leon was listed in the 1987 *Register of Members' Interests* as a director of Sharp Technology Fund, an adviser to Goldman Sachs Inter-

national and a consultant to Sotheby's International Generics.

Lord Carlisle of Bucklow, Secretary of State for Education, 1979-81. Chairman of the Parole Review Body since 1987.

Lord Carrington, Foreign Secretary, 1979-82. Director since September 1982 of General Electric Company, and chairman February 1983-May 1984. Secretary-General of Nato, 1984-88. Chairman of Christie's International, fine art auctioneers, since 1988, and Christie Manson and Woods since 1989.

Lord Cockfield, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, 1983-84. Vice-President of European Commission, 1985-89.

Lord Colnbrook, formerly Sir Humphrey Atkins, Lord Privy Seal and Deputy Foreign Secretary, 1981-82. Underwriting member of Lloyd's.

Lord Crickhowell, formerly Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, 1979-87. Chairman of National Rivers



Sir Norman Fowler:

£15,000 for part-time

Authority since 1989. Directorships: Non-executive vice-chairman of Anglesey Mining plc, since 1988; chairman of Frost and Reed, fine art dealers; chairman of Harlech Fine Art (Holdings) since 1989; HTV Group since 1987; chairman of Ryan Keiles since 1988.

Sir Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, 1987-90. MP for Sutton Coldfield. Non-executive director of Everset, quarrying, and building materials group. It is believed he will earn £15,000 a year for the part-time post.

Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, Deputy Foreign Secretary, 1979-1981. MP for Chesham and Amersham. Directorships: Gulf Development Ltd (Middle Eastern Marketing) 1982-83 and since 1985; Bloomsbury Holdings, Consultant to Robert Fraser and Partners, financiers.

Lord Gowrie, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, 1984-85. On leaving the Government said he could not afford to live on Cabinet minister's salary of £33,000. Chair

of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, 1985-89.

Lord Prior, formerly James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, 1981-84. Chairman of General Electric Company since 1984; non-executive chairman, Alders, non-executive director, J. Sainsbury since 1984; non-executive director of United Biscuits, food manufacturer, since 1984; non-executive director of Barclays Bank and Barclays International 1984-89.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, presently Secretary of State for Transport. He resigned from Mrs Thatcher's second administration in 1983. In the January 1987 *Register of Members' Interests* he was listed as being

in the City of London.

Mr Walker: Link with firm that handled gas

Mr Tebbit: £17,500 and chauffeured Jaguar

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Labour attacks training decision

THERE had been an alarming shift of emphasis in the Government's attitude to training since Mr Michael Howard replaced Sir Norman Fowler as Secretary of State for Employment earlier this year. Miss Margaret Beckett, shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, told MPs.

Speaking during the first day of the committee stage of the Finance Bill, she said that Sir Norman had laid down a framework for training and had set the Government strategic targets.

Mr Howard, however, was saying that progress in training now depended on action of the Government and there could be no specific government targets.

His consistent theme was not how great was the need for training, but how well Britain was doing.

That was an alarming shift in emphasis. The CBI had pointed out that skill levels were lower than in most competitive countries and the gap was widening.

Others argued that Britain was further down the ladder of countries providing training.

It seemed that the Government was in danger of repeating the mistake it had made in other areas, of taking up a perfectly reasonable policy — in this case encouraging employers to greater efforts to provide training — and using it as an excuse to shuffle off the part of responsibility that properly belonged to Government.

Those involved in the training and enterprise councils were devastated by the Government's withdrawal of funds. The chambers of commerce were disturbed that the Government was turning off the funding long before employers had decided to turn their tap on.

She moved a series of amendments to allow employers to retain tax relief where they were contributing to training and enterprise councils and also sending employees to the TECs.

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) said that Miss Beckett believed that taxpayers should make further direct contributions towards training. "We believe there should be a partnership in responsibility for training between the Government and industry." The Bill gave additional tax relief and more encouragement to employers, who had a real responsibility for training.

Mr James Wallace, Liberal Democrat spokesman on employment, said that business had shown itself inadequate in providing training, and many of the people at the top knew precious little about the subject.

Mr Peter Lilley, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said that it was estimated that £20 billion a year was being spent by private industry on training.

The Government accepted the spirit of these amendments, but felt they were unnecessary and might bring in unneeded complications.

The amendments were rejected by 244 votes to 152 — Government majority, 92.

Results of poll tax review 'in few weeks'

RESULTS of the government review of the community charge are to be announced in a few weeks time, the Prime Minister said at question time in the Commons yesterday.

She said that the modifications would not include the problem of protection of local authorities. That was for longer-term consideration.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, asked her to acknowledge that last week's higher inflation figures were largely the result of higher interest rates, higher mortgage rates, higher rent and poll tax.

"Will she confirm that those are all directly her policies and accept that she is not just the Prime Minister of inflation but the prime cause of inflation?"

Mrs Thatcher: Local councils set community charge (Labour protests). If local councils had not overspent to the tune of £3 billion, retail price index would be 1 per cent lower. The biggest overspenders are Labour, so (Mr Kinnock) bears some of the blame.

Mr Kinnock said that the main components of rising inflation were identified as being a consequence of government policies, and she was trying to blame everybody else. If she was trying, as she said, to squeeze out inflation, why did she spend so much time trying to cram it in with higher mortgage and interest rates and poll tax?

Mrs Thatcher: Labour policy (Labour protests) is to persuade Labour councils to set the community charge as high as they can get away with. The retail price index would be materially lower but for community charge, and lower also if community charge had been materially lower by the end of the year, or with Mr Norman Lamont, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, who said that in the present dire economic circumstances, any such forecast would be foolish.

"Which is right or wrong?"

Mrs Thatcher: I agree with the Chancellor (Labour cheers and laughs) and also with the Chief Secretary (renewed laughter), whose message was never accepted or acted upon by Labour. Always keep public spending under control. That is the essence of sound policy.

Mr David Winnick (Walton North, Lab): I take it from her comments to Mr Kinnock the one person not to blame for the very high interest rates and inflation rates is the very same person who has boasted this wretched Administration for the past 11 years. When these policies were decided upon, was she simply absent, rather than when the papers were leaked over Westland?

Mrs Thatcher said that she was glad not to have been responsible for Labour's high inflation of 26.9 per cent.

PRIME MINISTER

amount spent on education, and the care of elderly and handicapped people. "Conservative councils cost you less and give you much better service and benefits."

Mr Timothy Yes (South Suffolk, C): Without pre-empting the conclusions of the most welcome review of community charge now being carried out, can we assure the House that the Government is not contemplating the introduction into any part of the United Kingdom of either a roof tax or a local income tax?

Can she further assure the House that, as reported in the newspapers, these matters will be considered by ministers for longer than the two minutes it apparently took for roof tax to be endorsed by Labour MPs?

Mrs Thatcher: We shall certainly not introduce either a roof tax or a local income tax. It would be the worst of all worlds to have a tax on capital values augmented by a tax on income.

We are considering modifications of community charge and shall be in a position to announce those in a few weeks. They would not, of course, include the problem of structure of local authorities. That is for longer-term consideration.

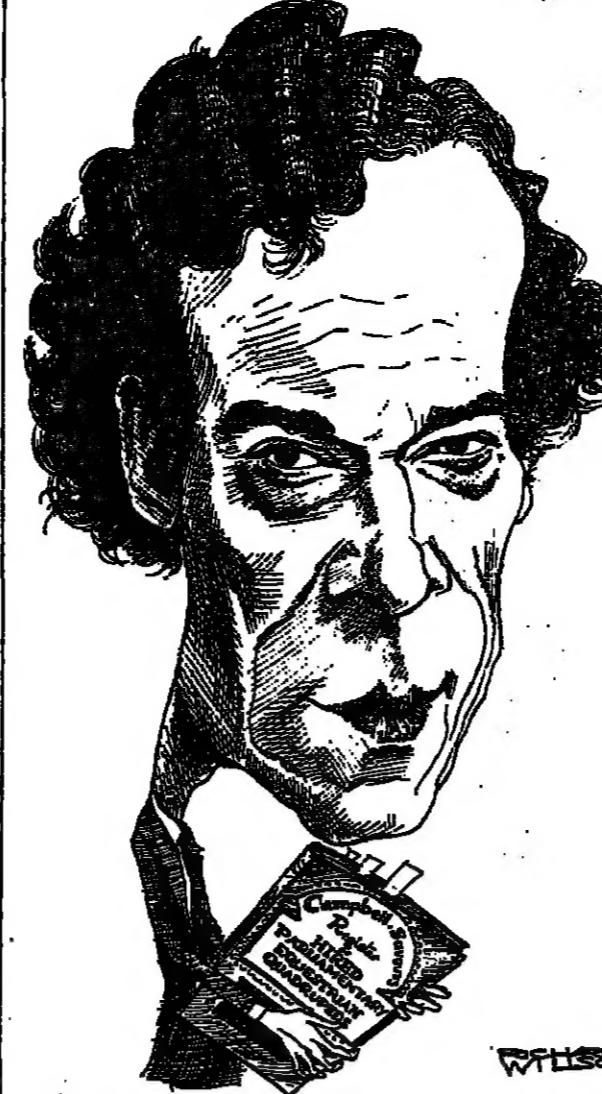
Mr Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrats, asked whether the Prime Minister agreed with Mr John Major, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had said two months ago that interest rates would be materially lower by the end of the year, or with Mr Norman Lamont, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, who said that in the present dire economic circumstances, any such forecast would be foolish.

"Which is right or wrong?"

Mrs Thatcher: I agree with the Chancellor (Labour cheers and laughs) and also with the Chief Secretary (renewed laughter), whose message was never accepted or acted upon by Labour. Always keep public spending under control. That is the essence of sound policy.

Mr David Winnick (Walton North, Lab): I take it from her comments to Mr Kinnock the one person not to blame for the very high interest rates and inflation rates is the very same person who has boasted this wretched Administration for the past 11 years. When these policies were decided upon, was she simply absent, rather than when the papers were leaked over Westland?

Mrs Thatcher said that she was glad not to have been responsible for Labour's high inflation of 26.9 per cent.



WITNESS

'Paid hack' ruled out

MRA DALE Campbell-Savours (Workington, Lab) clashed with the Speaker during defence question in the Commons when he accused the chairman of the defence select committee of being a "paid hack" of a defence contracting company.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said that the phrase "paid hack" was unparliamentary and must be withdrawn.

Mr Campbell-Savours sought to refer him to the register of members' interests, but the Speaker said: "The phrase I object to is 'paid hack'."

The clash arose when Mr Campbell-Savours said that defence contractors should be advised not to "get into bed with SGL Ltd, whose paid hack was the chairman of the defence select committee" (Mr Michael Mates, Hampshire East, C).

Amid loud protests from Conservative MPs and shouts of "paid lackey" from the Labour benches, Mr Campbell-Savours changed the phrase to "paid servant".

Mr Alan Clark, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, to whom the original question had been directed, eventually replied: "One thing I do know is never tell anybody who to go to bed with."

Be patient, peers told on BAe sale

A REPORT by the European Commission into the sale of the Rover Group to BAe is expected shortly, Lord Trefgarne, Minister for Trade, told peers at question time in the House of Lords yesterday.

Pressed by the Opposition, he said that he would be surprised if there were not government statements to both Houses after its publication.

He denied that there had been any attempt during the sale to mislead Parliament and urged peers to wait to the report before commenting.

Lord Hatch of Lesby (Lab), however, said that two things had already been established.

Lord Hatch of Lesby (Lab) said that correspondence from Lord Young of Grahama to BAe fully set out alternative means of misleading Parliament as to the true nature of the considerations involved in the purchase.

Lord Hatch said that the correspondence clearly indicated that Lord Young had offered the company alternative means of duplicitous. That correspondence is in the library, not in my mind.

Lord Williams of Elvel, an Opposition spokesman, said that the position was profoundly unsatisfactory. He urged the Government to do all in its power to hasten publication of the report.

Lord Trefgarne replied that the Government had no power over the Commission in this case. "We shall just have to wait in patience."

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Thailand
defends
need to
extradite

Druze leader claims that Waite is in good health

From A Correspondent, Beirut

MR TERRY Waite, the Church of England envoy kidnapped in Beirut in 1987, is in good health, a Druze official confirmed yesterday. In the first such clarification about his health and whereabouts, Mr Arafat Shuhayeb said: "He is in good health and is being kept in a hideout on the demarcation line." The line divides Beirut into Muslim and Christian sectors.

News about Mr Waite's health emerged early this week. A pro-Iranian source said yesterday that the information was apparently released to end any speculation that he might have died in captivity.

The source, who has access to news about Western hostages kidnapped in Lebanon, said on condition of anonymity: "This is an invitation to the British Government for

De Klerk to pip Mandela to America

Washington

PRESIDENT de Klerk of South Africa is to visit Washington on or around June 18. White House officials said yesterday (Martin Fletcher writes) — before Mr Nelson Mandela, the African National Congress leader, who arrives in the US days later.

The visit and its timing have angered supporters of Mr Mandela. "No American President has ever invited a South African President presiding over an apartheid state to visit the US. Not even Ronald Reagan," Mr Randall Robinson, one of the organizers of Mr Mandela's visit, said.

Mr Mandela is to address a joint session of Congress and will attend a parade in his honour in New York.

Priest refuses military service

Johannesburg

A YOUNG Anglican priest, convicted of refusing to do military service in the South African Army and facing a heavy jail sentence, walked out of court in Johannesburg yesterday and joined an anti-conscription protest march (Ray Kennedy writes).

The Rev Douglas Torr, aged 26, and other conscientious objectors marched more than a mile through the streets from the magistrates' court to a military barracks with a petition demanding the right to refuse military service.

Burmese ban on foreigners

Bangkok

BURMA'S military government banned foreigners from the country from yesterday, diplomats said here, quoting Rangoon officials as saying the decision was taken in view of Burma's upcoming elections.

Polling is due on May 27. However, the ban appears to be indefinite. Diplomatic say. Only foreigners with special dispensation, such as diplomats and foreign aid workers, are exempt. (AFP)

Judges hear argument on right to burn 'Old Glory'

From Susan Ellicott
Washington

DEMONSTRATORS for the right to burn the US flag gathered this week outside the Supreme Court here as justices heard arguments to determine whether Americans have the constitutional right to deface their national colours.

Republicans seized on the issue after a left-wing protester burnt the flag at the 1984 Republican Party convention in Dallas, Texas. A national debate erupted when the Supreme Court ruled as unconstitutional last year a decision by Texas to ban flag-burning. Congress later passed a law to protect the flag from desecration, saying this in no way infringed the right of free expression.

Americans are now waiting to see whether flag-burning becomes a divisive political issue this year in congressional elections or, as is more likely, becomes a damp squib.

The Administration's leading courtroom lawyer told the Supreme Court this week that Congress should have the power to protect a thing so dear to Americans as their flag. The court expected to rule as early as next month on the law which carries a penalty of up to a year in jail or a fine of \$1,000 (£600).



A freedom-of-speech advocate demonstrating at the Supreme Court for the right to deface the US flag

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MAY 16 1990

OVERSEAS NEWS

Peking arrests 'spies' from Taiwan

From Catherine Sampson
Peking

CHINA said yesterday it had arrested seven "spies" from Taiwan for trying to stir up dissent. The announcement came as tension over the Goddess of Democracy radio ship was reaching a peak with the vessel preparing to leave Taiwan and sail into international waters to start broadcasting its pro-democracy message into China.

A number of Taiwan "spies" had attempted to instigate new turmoil on the mainland. China's official news agency, Xinhua, reported, quoting the Ministry of State Security. Five of the "spies" were arrested in the southern province of Guangxi. China said two had joined the Kuomintang military spy network last year. Their orders, Xinhua said, were to make contact with and encourage underground dissident organizations.

The other two "spies" were arrested in the northern city of Tianjin and the western province of Yunnan, where they were trying to recruit "secret agents", according to Xinhua. One was under cover as a businessman, "trying to recruit spies in factories and enterprises".

This is the first state of arrests of Taiwanese "spies" since February, and may be timed as a warning to coincide with the radio ship's presence in Taiwan, where it is taking on supplies and broadcasting equipment. Taiwan has made clear its nervousness about the project, and says it will refuse permission for the boat to return to Taiwan for supplies if it goes ahead with the broadcast.

China has expressed outrage at the project, and has not ruled out the use of force to halt it. The Goddess of Democracy is named after the statue that students erected last year in Tiananmen Square as China's statue of liberty. The boat aims to leave Taiwan tomorrow and to begin its broadcast in the next few days, during the run-up to the June 4 anniversary of the massacre.

Taiwan says it will defend the ship only while it is in Taiwanese waters. However, analysts say China will not attack the vessel while the US is debating whether to renew its Most Favoured Nation trading status.

• Peak plea: Three Tibetan mountain climbers who made it to the summit of Everest last week as part of a joint Chinese-Soviet-American expedition got their priorities absolutely right, the *Peking Daily* reported yesterday. On reaching the summit, they called their leaders at base camp on walkie-talkies to make an official request that they be allowed to become Communist Party members.



Stepping on dissent: Chinese soldiers familiarizing themselves with new riot-control gear yesterday outside the Forbidden City in Peking

Cemetery attacks force France to face the past

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

M. MICHEL Rocard, the French Prime Minister, yesterday postponed today's much-vaunted round-table talks on immigration to the end of the month. The announcement came five minutes after the right-wing opposition's decision not to turn up for the meeting.

Clearly, discussing the need to further limit immigration — two days after President Mitterrand joined more than 100,000 people marching on the streets of Paris to express their disgust at racism and anti-Semitism in France — is inappropriate. M. Mitterrand's unexpected decision to join the tens of thousands of people marching in protest at the desecration of tombs in the Jewish cemetery of Carpentras, last week, showed — in the words of *Liberation* newspaper yesterday — that the President understood the gravity of the situation in France today.

How, *Liberation* asked, had a President, who had always championed human rights and tolerance, come to be confronted with this disastrous image of France as he entered his tenth year in power? It is 10 years since the last great Paris street demonstration against anti-Semitism, after the bombing of the Jewish synagogue in the rue de Copernic, that left four people dead and 10 others injured.

Since then the National Front, which has made its anti-Jewish sentiments a cornerstone of its existence, has emerged as a fully fledged political party, and racist killings and attacks in France — often by policemen — have multiplied to become almost a part of everyday life.

Yesterday M. Lionel Jospin, the Education Minister, underlined the need, 45 years on, for the truth about the Holocaust to be taught in full in French schools and for children to be educated on the dangers of racism. Taking up the cry, *France-Soir* yesterday pointed out that only since 1988 had the extermination of Jewish people during the Sec-

ond World War been explicitly part of the senior state school curriculum.

Another cause for outrage is the continued presence in French universities of professors who have written theses denying the existence of Nazi gas chambers. M. Michel Noir, the Mayor of Lyons, demanded, two weeks ago, that such professors be dismissed from Lyons University.

Young French people have little idea that the Vichy authorities forcibly rounded up French Jews and deported them to Nazi concentration camps. After Monday's march, at which many French deportees were present, they are beginning to understand.

Three weeks ago, the magazine *L'Express*, under the headline "The forgotten crime", published the horrific story of the forced separation by the French authorities of 3,500 French Jewish children

from their mothers in 1942 and the children's deportation to Auschwitz. It was hard medicine for a nation that has never come to terms with its divisions in the Second World War. Fears that the increasing number of incidents of anti-Semitism are creating a climate similar to that of the 1930s has made it imperative that it does.

Festivities are planned next month to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of General de Gaulle — the most famous modern leader to march through the streets of Paris — and the 50th anniversary of his broadcast from London, in 1940, urging the French to resist the German occupation of their country. It is easier to remember the Resistance than the occupation, but the matter of the body in Carpentras, dug up from its grave, shows that it is necessary to detail both.

Australia forecast stirs race debate

From Robert Cockburn, Sydney

A FORECAST that one in four Australians will be of Asian origin within 50 years has heightened calls for a review of the country's non-discriminatory immigration policy.

Amid press reports of impending racial violence, the belief that Australia is creating one of the world's most stable multi-cultural societies has been questioned by an early architect of the policy. The demographer, Dr Charles Price, a consultant on immigration since the 1950s, says the present 6 per cent Asian proportion of migrant numbers will rise to 26 per cent with the Government's current policy. Dr Price's concern over what he describes as "rapid ethnic change" is already polarizing opinion, with angry opponents seeing him as rekindling Australia's old racist image.

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ond World War been explicitly part of the senior state school curriculum.

The debate has also prompted articles such as a series in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on violence in Europe, Canada and South America caused by the presence of Asians and Africans. "We have avoided most of the problems that bedevil Western Europe because few of our non-European migrants have been poor, black, unskilled, Muslim or illegal," the newspaper said.

It added: "Muslims, with their different dietary laws and different attitudes towards women, are a group of people who are finding it most difficult to absorb." Using these examples the newspaper urged the Government to reconsider Asian immigration.

Critics of current immigration levels, including voices within the Labor Government, want substantial cuts to the annual intake of 140,000 migrants. A spokeswoman for Mr Gerry Hand, the Minister of Immigration, said yesterday that a number of submissions were being examined before this year's rate of immigration was decided. She insisted that race would not become a criterion for immigration.

But, at a time of deepening recession, the call for a new look at immigration policy is being led by Dr John Hewson, the opposition Liberal Party leader, who questions continued high levels of immigration on economic grounds. It is a view that has brought together some strange bedfellows, from the far left and the far right, to Green MPs opposed to any

annual GDP of £32.12 billion against £21.53 billion.

"The total public debt at the end of the year will be 15 trillion drachmas (£55 billion). That is 1.5 million drachmas per capita," Mr Mitsotakis said.

He plans to introduce a tough budget before the end of May to cut the government deficit.

Mr Mitsotakis, a man of charm and quiet courtesy but no match for the fiery charisma of his socialist predecessor, Mr Papandreu, waited five years as leader of

Mitsotakis plans harsh measures to salvage economy

From Andrew McEwan, Athens

THIRTY state companies may be shut down, others privatised and thousands of state employees made redundant as Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, Greece's conservative Prime Minister, tackles an economy in ruins after eight years of socialism.

He said yesterday that he would start closing "ailing industries" immediately. "Maybe next week... we have no time to lose."

Part of the Greek crisis has been caused by a huge increase in the number of civil servants, many of whom Mr Mitsotakis described as "completely useless". In his first interview with a foreign journalist since his election on April 8, the Prime Minister disclosed that the Government had no idea how many civil servants it had, and was making an inventory.

The situation is dramatic. In the public sector enterprises we have two, three or even five times as many personnel as are needed.

Mr Mitsotakis also quashed speculation that charges against Mr Andreas Papandreu, the former Prime Minister, arising from the Bank of Crete scandal, might be dropped.

He said there had been no secret deal. "Nobody would order justice around, and nobody would wish to." Asked if it would be too strong to say that the economy was in ruins, he replied that that was "exactly the reality".

Mr Mitsotakis arrives in London this morning for a meeting with Mrs Thatcher. He will request, and undoubtedly receive, her understanding for the turmoil which lies ahead as he applies tough corrective policies. He will also seek greater British investment and try to persuade her to be more active in resolving the Cyprus dispute.

Yesterday, workers in industries likely to be selected for closure staged a four-hour stoppage and a protest march to the Ministry of the National Economy. Mr Mitsotakis said there was no alternative to sharp deflation. The most startling measure of Greece's debts is that they exceed annual GDP of £32.12 billion against £21.53 billion.

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FBI boycott inquiry shames New York

From James Bone, New York

THE FBI, long accustomed to civil rights investigations in the Deep South, has begun an inquiry into the black boycott of two Korean-owned grocery shops in Brooklyn.

The entry of the Federal Bureau of Investigation into the case comes as an acute embarrassment to New York, whose own police have failed to enforce a court order that pickets be kept at least 50 yards from the shops.

The FBI was called in by the Federal Attorney's office in Brooklyn. Federal civil rights lawyers have targeted both the grocery shop and another Korean-owned shop across the street, where two Red Apple workers took refuge.

The atmosphere has worsened dramatically in recent days. At the weekend, just blocks from the grocery shops, a gang of blacks beat up three Vietnamese, shouting anti-Korean slurs.

A man aged 18 and a girl aged 13 have been charged in connection with the attack.

criticized for what some see as excessive eroticism and nudity for a peak-time soap. Several of the cast members have threatened to leave the show.

Written by Benedict Ruy Barbosa, the soap opera takes place in the Pantanal, a vast region the size of Switzerland, Belgium and Holland put together, on the Brazilian border with Paraguay and Bolivia. Largely owned by ranchers, whose cattle roam up to 100,000 because, the Pantanal is described by wildlife experts as a natural paradise, with flocks of large blue macaws, jaguars and alligators.

The author of nearly 20 soap operas, Senhor Barbosa conceived the idea for the drama eight years ago when he visited a rural hotel in the Pantanal. After being rejected by TV Globo, he spent six years offering the series to various channels, before *Manchete* decided to risk the rela-

Brazil's beauty and beasts a wild success

From Louise Byrne
Rio de Janeiro

JUMA, the star of Brazil's latest hit soap opera, walks the flatlands of Pantanal with a rifle in her hand and a fierce feline look in her eye. She bathes in rivers inhabited by alligators and is a mystery to most men. Beautiful Juma, otherwise model Cristina Oliveira, is acting in only her second television drama but has found herself at the centre of Brazil's first ecological soap opera and the biggest success in many years.

Few might have expected an ecological soap opera in Brazil, a country known more for cutting down trees than for saving them. However, not only is *Pantanal* bringing beauty and panoramic beauty into the homes of Brazilians six nights a week, but it has got Brazil's main television network, TV Globo, extremely wor-

ried. Produced by the rival station *TV Manchete*, *Pantanal* has proved so successful it has threatened the soap supremacy of *Globo*.

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Pantanal has, however, been

Leading article, page 13

Yeltsin plays the Russian card in first stage of bid for power

From Mary Dejevsky
Moscow

MR BORIS Yeltsin today embarks on what he believes will be an uphill struggle to become President of the Russian Federation — a post from which he could subsequently challenge President Gorbachov for the leadership of the Soviet Union.

Mr Yeltsin, who commands widespread and increasingly vocal public support in some of Russia's largest cities, will be the willing star at the congress of the Russian Federation parliament when it meets for the first time today. He can count on being mobbed by supporters and journalists alike, when he makes his first appearance in the lobbies of the grand Kremlin Palace.

The congress is the preliminary stage in the establishment of the Russian Federation's new two-chamber parliament, or Supreme Soviet. A total of 1,068 deputies will be taking part, elected in the republic-wide elections held in

March. Just over a third competed as adherents of the "bloc for democratic Russia" umbrella group of reformist organizations, and Mr Yeltsin believes that he can count on their support in his bid for the presidency. He regards another 30 per cent as die-hard opponents and the other 40 per cent of deputies as possibly persuadable.

The competition for the presidency, and the selection of deputies who will become members of the permanently sitting Supreme Soviet will be the main work of the congress. It will also set an outline agenda for the Supreme Soviet, and probably amend the federation's Constitution to increase the republic's sovereignty in relation to the federal government.

Two candidates besides Mr Yeltsin are expected to be nominated for the presidency — Mr Aleksandr Vlasov, the grey and charmless Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, and probably Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, the Soviet Prime

Minister. According to Mr Yeltsin, speaking to a public meeting of his Moscow supporters, Mr Gorbachov has urged all Communist Party deputies to vote for Mr Vlasov.

How much power the new President wills will depend on two things: the character of the individual, and whether the congress makes changes to the Constitution to give the President republic-wide powers similar to those held by Mr Gorbachov since the establishment of the executive presidency.

Mr Yeltsin is the only candidate who would, by character alone, transform the office. If the Constitution is not changed, however, his position would be merely chairman of the presidium of the federation's Supreme Soviet — little more than speaker of the republic's parliament. If the Constitution is changed, however, he would have far wider powers, including the right to initiate legislation and appoint his own

cabinet, as President Gorbachov has done.

In the view of Yeltsin supporters, the worst that could happen is that the congress would both change the Constitution and elect Mr Vlasov — giving a man regarded as a Gorbachov puppet extensive powers to do President Gorbachov's bidding. A middle course would be for the office to remain powerless, in which case either Mr Vlasov or Mr Yeltsin could be elected.

Assuming he cannot win, or if Mr Gorbachov uses every possible tactical manoeuvre to prevent him from winning, Mr Yeltsin's favoured course is to leave the Constitution as it is, and have the chairman of the presidium elected for a one-year term, while amendments are adopted to provide for republic-wide direct elections for the presidency in a year's time.

He appears to believe that he would be able to use the year to build more solid support in rural as well as urban areas —

from which he could campaign to become the first directly elected leader of a Soviet republic. In national politics, this would give him an impressive advantage over President Gorbachov, whose five-year mandate was won after hard bargaining with the All-Union Congress of People's Deputies.

The question of greater sovereignty for the federation in relations with the central Soviet Government, as with the post of President, can mean as much or as little as the new parliament wants it to mean. More autonomy for individual republics is a policy President Gorbachov has advocated consistently, and changes in the all-union Constitution are in train to loosen the central ties on all republics.

The Russian Federation, however, has always been different because Moscow is the seat of government and because Russians are the dominant ethnic group in the Soviet Union. Traditional Communist "internationalists", like Mr

Yegor Ligachov, would object to too much autonomy for the federation, on the grounds that it might accelerate its disintegration. Others, however, including Mr Yeltsin, believe that Russia should be a republic like any other, with the same rights to self-government and financial autonomy as are planned for the other republics.

This view finds favour with extreme Russian nationalists, but it also has much wider appeal. Many Russians feel that they pay too much into the central treasury to subsidize other republics, whether ungrateful separatists like the Baltic states, or the too-rapidly multiplying populations of Soviet Central Asia. They also resent the Russian casualties incurred during what they see as peace-keeping operations between non-Russian nationalities, as in the Caucasus.

Mr Yeltsin's positive advocacy of the Russian cause might just give him enough votes to make the election of the federation President a real contest.

Gorbachov fights to rekindle his waning popularity

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

WITH two weeks to go before the Washington summit and another four to the opening of the Communist Party Congress, President Gorbachov is engaged in some hectic image-building; mostly, it seems, for the benefit of his increasingly jaded domestic constituency.

The extent of his unpopularity, even within the Communist Party, became clear yesterday when it was disclosed that he had won only 60 per cent of the vote to become a delegate to the party congress, even though he was standing in a hand-picked party constituency against an unknown opponent.

Since last Thursday, Mr Gorbachov has delivered two important speeches, one to a Moscow party voters' meeting, the other to university and college rectors. He has met three senior foreign visitors: the new Mongolian leader, President Mubarak of Egypt (who is making the first visit by an Egyptian leader for 18 years), and the Papal Nuncio. He is now preparing for a probable meeting with a fourth visitor, Mr James Baker, the US Secretary of State, who arrived in Moscow for a four-day visit last night to discuss final preparations for the summit. Yesterday *Pravda* even published, on its front page, a posed photo-

graph of Mr Gorbachov between the Mongolian President and party leader in the best Brezhnevian style.

Each of the foreign visits

has its own important purpose, of course, aside from demonstrating the Soviet leader's continued supremacy in foreign policy. The Papal Nuncio delivered a letter from the Pope, in reply to a letter sent earlier. The subject is not known but could relate to Lithuania (a predominantly Roman Catholic republic for which the Pope asked for prayers in his Easter message) or to the projected papal visit to the Soviet Union.

With both Mongolia and Egypt it is possible to detect concern in Moscow lest either tip the traditional balance of their foreign policy too far in the direction of China. Soviet relations with both countries are dogged with economic and political problems which tend to be hidden behind diplomatic decorum.

The two causes of tension with Mongolia, aside from the China factor, are the country's extreme economic dependence on the Soviet Union and its huge rouble debt — which exceeds nine billion rubles — on which Mongolia recently said it would default. The official account of President Ochirbat's meeting with

the Soviet leader is that

President Gorbachov's speech to his Moscow party constituency on Friday, Mr Gorbachov said there was much that could be adopted from the Democratic Platform's programme, although he rejected the idea that the Communist Party should lose its "avant-garde" character.

His words contrasted with the party Central Committee's open letter criticizing the Democratic Platform and accusing some of its most prominent members of trying to split the party — a letter which Mr Gorbachov authorized.

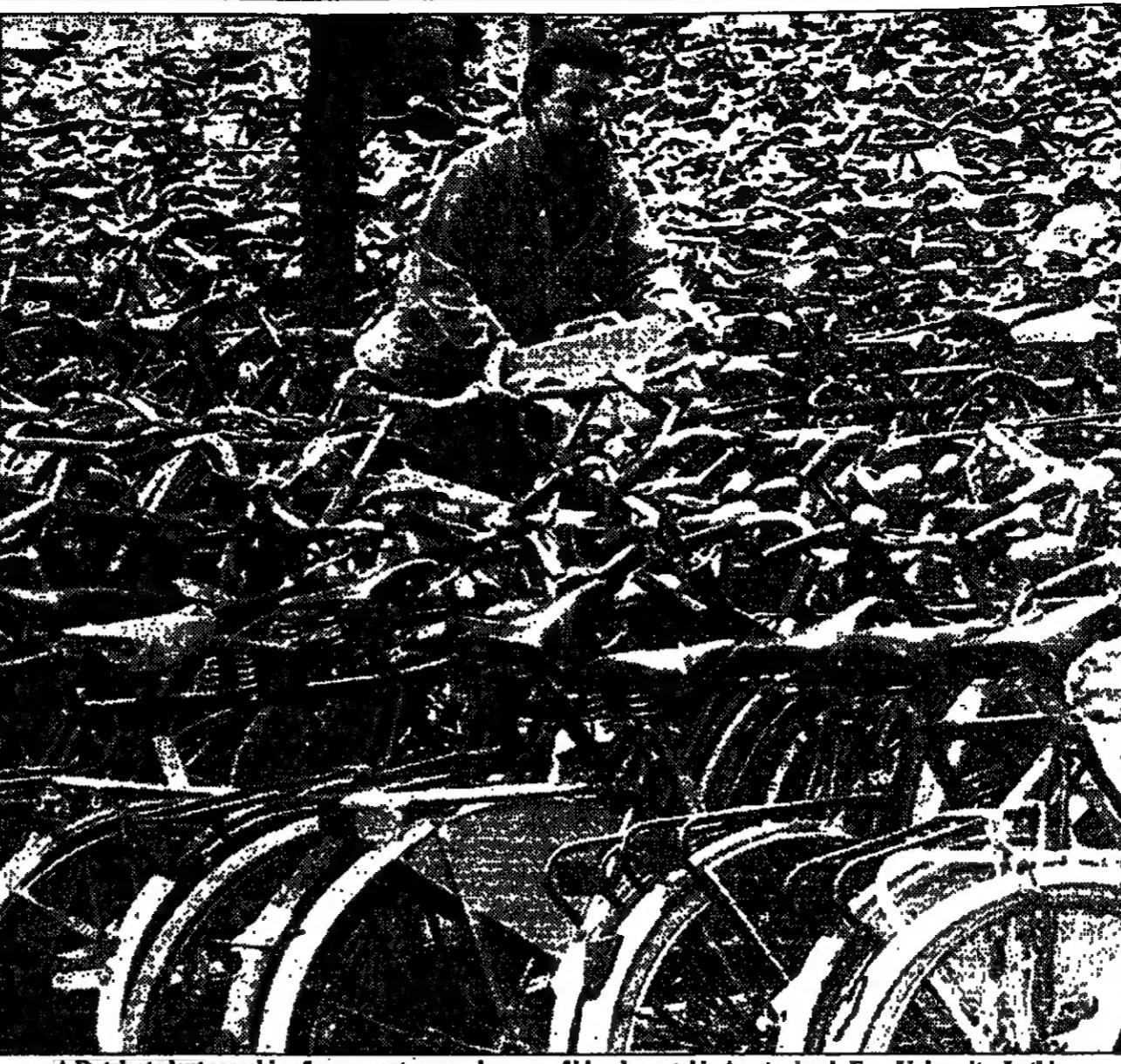
The letter prompted the resignation from the party of a number of Democratic Platform leaders and sympathizers — who are setting up a separate Russian Democratic Party — and resulted in the expulsion of others. Despite splitting the Democratic Platform in this way, however, Mr Gorbachov still clearly considers the group a threat and the 36 per cent of the vote won by his opponent — a Democratic Platform supporter — in his party constituency, shows its continuing popularity.

A Scandinavian student preparing a thesis comparing the Romanian election with that in Czechoslovakia, admitted he could not find a single point of similarity. To make matters worse, he was badly beaten up by supporters of the ruling National Salvation Front when he unwisely attempted to photograph an example of the intimidation and thuggery that has become so widespread.

Apart from the reluctance to accept any rapid change in the *status quo*, expressed by many voters panicked by visions of a new capitalist "boss class", no one here speaks of a sense of shame about the past in the way that President Havel of Czechoslovakia has described with such eloquence.

Romania has a tradition of intolerance, brutality and deep-rooted corruption that preceded the 24-year dictatorship of Nicolae Ceausescu. It also has no tradition of liberal democracy. Nor was there any organized elite outside the Communist Party waiting to assume power at the fall of Ceausescu.

Deference shown towards the Front by many voters, notably workers who are estimated to make up some 70 per



A Dutch student searching for an empty space in a sea of bicycles outside Amsterdam's Free University. In this flat, car-clogged city, bicycles are cleaner, cheaper and faster. Parking may still be a problem, though

Violent election campaign marks Romania as maverick of East

From Christopher Walker, Bucharest

WHEN campaigning ends officially at midnight tomorrow, voters will have two clear days before casting their ballots in an election which has contributed as much as the bloody December revolution to single out Romania as the maverick of Eastern Europe.

Among the foreign analysts flooding into Bucharest's overcrowded hotels, the most puzzled have been those fresh from studying other recent polls in the former Communist Bloc.

This has applied particularly to Mr Ion Iliescu, the elegant, bow-tied Peasant Party candidate, who has been using his large personal fortune to finance a campaign.

"He thinks money is everything," complained Miss Ilona Hristea, a young Front supporter in Moldavia. "He cannot come back like that and buy us."

Many Romanians have switched their adulation to Mr Ion Iliescu, the former high-ranking Communist who is the Front's presidential candidate. Their ignorance of opposition alternatives has been reinforced by the Front's control of the media.

Television, the focal point of the revolution, has been shamelessly biased towards the Front, a tactic also employed by the official Romanian news agency. All attempts by Mr Raluca to start a rival television or radio station have been stone-walled and *Romania Libera*, the main independent daily, frequently finds that copies fail to reach the news-stands.

Deference shown towards the Front by many voters, notably workers who are estimated to make up some 70 per

cent of the electorate, has made some psephologists unwilling to predict the result of Sunday's vote solely on the outcome of opinion polls. These have been armchair and have all given the Front a substantial lead, although that has been falling slightly in recent days.

Doubts about the Front's ability to overcome its close links with Moscow and the old Communist regime point to the way the pollsters were wrong-footed by the outcome of recent polls in East Germany and Nicaragua.

Miss Anna Husarik, a Polish journalist from *Gazeta Wyborcza*, said: "I was in Managua for the voting and, because the Sandinistas had the biggest rallies, everybody assumed they would win. The same possibility for an upset could exist here."

Against this has to be set the comparative size of the Front and opposition rallies in

Romania, notably in the rural areas, where ignorance about democracy is greatest and opposition fears about harassment highest. There are even politicians certain that many voters will not believe their ballot will be secret.

"How could this be manipulated as the journalists have claimed?" asked Mr Iliescu as a chanting crowd of 30,000 in the oil city of Ploiesti gave him a hero's welcome. Speaking to his supporters, it was a hard question to answer as most appeared genuine in their conviction that the ever-smiling interim President was the man who had rescued them from Ceausescu.

The opposition has been unable to pull anything like the Front's crowds: intimidation has been a factor, but there has also been a lack of enthusiasm reinforced by their poor organization.

The latest poll, published yesterday by *Romania Libera*, gave Mr Iliescu 53 per cent of the votes; Mr Radu Campeanu, leader of the Liberal Party, 23.6 per cent; and Mr Ratiu 11.1 per cent. In the race for the upper and lower houses of parliament, the Front was named by 39.6 per cent, 24.5 per cent plumped for the Liberals and only 8.3 per cent for the Peasant Party. More than 12 per cent of voters were undecided.

Excluding any last-minute upsets, that is likely to ensure the Front's victory, but not by the landslide margins predicted at the outset of a campaign in which the opposition has only managed in the closing stages to start getting its message across.

Bonn approval for a unity treaty

From Ian Murray
Bonn

THE draft treaty, which will enable rich West Germany to take over the management of poor East Germany from July 2, was endorsed yesterday by the Bonn Government as the first and most important concrete step towards elections for a united country to be held around the turn of the year.

Economic, currency and social union will effectively end East Germany's existence as a separate state in day-to-day matters.

The treaty on economic union goes some way to meet Soviet fears over the consequences of reunification. It affirms that the united country will respect all existing trade contracts, including those with the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact countries.

Already accepted in outline by the East German Government, the treaty will require quick legislation in the Volkskammer to change or cancel the whole spectrum of laws which created the communist state after the Second World War.

This will enable the Bundesbank to introduce the Deutsche mark as the common currency and to run a social market economy there.

Herr Theo Waigel, the West German Finance Minister, travels to East Berlin tomorrow to see Herr Walter Röder, his opposite number, to work out final details. Both Governments are due to approve the 115-page document on Friday and it should be passed by both parliaments on June 23.

Having surrendered its economy to the Bundesbank, the East German Government will then set to work to organize the final merger between the two countries.

Proposals are included in the draft treaty to protect low-paid workers and pensioners from suffering too much from the consequences of inflation once subsidies are removed from basic commodities and rents.

The plans involve bonuses worth around £10 a month for workers earning less than about £200 a month and a guarantee to pensioners that they will receive the same number of Deutsche marks as they would have received Ostmarks.

Unemployment benefits will also be paid with the help of a start-up contribution from Bonn, although the East German Government has to start levying contributions now to save for future needs.

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, made clear here today, it was "highly desirable" that all the external aspects of the treaty be agreed in parallel.

After a lunchtime meeting with Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his West German opposite number, he said that it would be dangerous if these aspects were separated from the internal questions, as had been suggested by Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

Doubts linger over Securitate successor

From Christopher Walker
Bucharest

IT WAS not a scene James Bond would relish. The idea was to make the dirty work of espionage as mundane as an episode of *Neighbours*. Yesterday, for the edification of the world's press and the reassurance of Romanian voters, Mr Virgil Magureanu, a former philosophy professor and now chief of the euphemistically named Romanian Information Service, was presented at a news conference.

Mr Magureanu, aged 50, who looks like everybody's favourite uncle, heads the replacement of Romania's hated Securitate secret police. His soothing words, about how the Information Service has no powers of arrest and would pursue no one on account of their political beliefs, were translated by a sweet-voiced woman,

and on hand was the new service's official spokesman, a bearded former film critic who appeared willing to give out his name and ex-director's telephone number to any foreign agent who asked.

Professor Magureanu, reduced from academic to researcher because of his opposition to the late Nicolae Ceausescu, gave no coherent explanation as to why he should have been chosen. But the Romanian next to me whispered: "It is probably because he does not look very sinister."

With searing candour, the professor pointed out how very difficult it was to find skilled secret service agents in post-revolutionary Romania who were not compromised by their connection with the Securitate. For this reason, the Information Service had launched a novel recruiting drive in the local press. It had also let

foreign diplomats know that any training by such established services as MI6, the CIA or the KGB would be welcome.

The professor spent more time explaining what the new intelligence service would not be doing than saying what it would. In Bucharest, the subject is sensitive; very few people believe that the Securitate died with Ceausescu. The new service's main role will be to counter terrorism and protect state secrets. Its agents will also continue hunting for the millions the Ceausescu salted away in bank accounts.

Professor Magureanu, a hard character to weave into any cloak-and-dagger novel, was unable to give a convincing answer to those who wanted to know what had happened to the 50,000 former Securitate agents and their 700,000 informers. He also



President Mubarak of Egypt, laying a wreath at the Lenin Mausoleum in Moscow, during a visit designed to ease long-standing tension between the two countries

Soviet leader may call on Reagan

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

PRESIDENT Gorbachov intends to travel across the US after this month's superpower summit and may visit former President Reagan in California. White House officials said yesterday.

Plans have not yet been finalized, but the officials said the Soviet leader, in what would be his first big tour of the US outside Washington, was likely to go first to Minneapolis, where he would give a speech and view industrial and agricultural enterprises. He would then fly on to

California where he has a long-standing invitation to visit Mr Reagan. A visit to San Francisco and a speech at Stanford University are also possible.

Mr Gorbachov's wish to venture beyond the East coast, communicated by a Soviet advance team which was in Washington last week to prepare for the summit, took the Administration by surprise.

When the dates of the May 30-June 3 summit were announced last month, US-Soviet relations were under

مدى من المدى

Murder trial prompts call for Mandela investigation

From Gavin Bell, Johannesburg

A MURDER trial has heard testimony by three young black men that they were punched and whipped by Mrs Winnie Mandela at her home in Soweto after her bodyguards had abducted them.

Three days after the alleged assault, during which Mrs Mandela is said to have told them they were "not fit to be alive", a youth detained with them was taken from the house by one of her associates. His partly decomposed body was later discovered a few miles away with three stab wounds in the neck.

Police forensic experts have testified that human blood was found on the seats of a minibus belonging to Mrs Mandela, on a whip taken from her house, and on the walls, floor and ceiling of two outside rooms.

Mrs Mandela is not in the dock, however. Nor has she been called to give evidence. She is touring African states with her husband, Mr Nelson Mandela, the Deputy President of the ANC.

Mr Jerry Richardson, aged

Notice is given on US bases

Manila

THE Philippines Government yesterday gave notice to the United States that it will terminate the 1947 agreement covering American military bases in the country from September 1991 (Vivian Tenorio writes).

The formal note was served by Mr Raul Manglapus, the Foreign Secretary, on the second day of exploratory talks in Manila with US officials led by Mr Richard Armitage on the future of the bases. Although analysts say this is merely a negotiating tactic by the Philippines side, it was applauded by legislators and nationalist groups.

Tibet cabinet

Dharamsala, India — The Tibetan parliament-in-exile has for the first time started electing a new cabinet as part of the Dalai Lama's plans to democratize the movement seeking to end Chinese rule over Tibet. (AFP)

Actor immunity

New York — A judge granted immunity to George Hamilton to compel the actor, who has been named as an unindicted co-conspirator in the case, to testify at the Marcos fraud trial. (AP)

Tree penalties

Jakarta — The Indonesian Department of Forestry warned that illegal tree cutting could bring penalties of up to 10 years in prison. (AP)

Barry denial

Washington — Mr Marion Barry, Mayor of Washington, has denied six new drug charges, and faces a total of 14 charges. (AP)

Rebel talks

Lisbon — A representative of the rebel Mozambique National Resistance met a Mozambique Government official for the first time the civil war began in 1977. (AP)

Octogenarian battle for Dominican rule

From Alan Tomlinson, Miami

TWO octogenarians who have dominated the political life of the Dominican Republic for half a century face each other at the polls today, to decide which will lead the country in the twilight of his years.

President Balaguer, aged 83, a mild-mannered Latin-American *caudillo* with a passion for history, sonnets and vast public works, seeks an extraordinary sixth term in office despite his almost total blindness.

But the opinion polls favour an astonishing comeback by Señor Juan Bosch, aged 80, a left-winger who, in line with new times, has abandoned the Marxism that led the army to topple him after six months in power in 1963.

Though his memory sometimes fails him with embarrassing lapses, the reformed Señor Bosch's belated espousal of capitalism appears to have won over many fearful Dominicans.

During his last four years in office, President Balaguer claims to have stimulated 3.8 per cent growth and created hundreds of thousands of jobs.



Blast-off: A Vietnamese leaves Hong Kong for home yesterday under the voluntary repatriation scheme with the ultimate in Western decadence, a "ghetto blaster"

Yugoslavia 'on brink of civil war'

From Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade

THE new head of Yugoslavia's collective presidency said yesterday that the defeat of the Communists and the victory of the opposition in Slovenia and Croatia had brought the country to the brink of civil war and possible breakup.

Dr Borislav Jovic, a Serb and hardline Communist who now heads the eight-man state presidency, which rotates annually, told Parliament that, under the guise of democratic change, forces set on destroying socialism, even at the price of breaking up Yugoslavia, were at work.

"This we shall firmly oppose," he said. However, he pledged himself to support the efforts of Yugoslav republics seeking to secede, including the endorsement of legal provisions that would permit a measure of self-determination for the constituent republics. These would include peaceful secession from the federal state so as to avoid the fate of "those countries that were forced to settle this problem on the streets".

However, Dr Stipe Suvar, the Vice-President, who represents Croatia, said Dr Jovic was speaking in his own name and that the rest of the presidency did not necessarily agree with this point of view.

The system of rotating heads of state was devised in Tito's lifetime to guarantee

each of the constituent republics and two autonomous regions equal say.

Centre-right parties have won the first free elections in Yugoslavia in 50 years in both Slovenia and Croatia to the consternation of hardline Communists in Serbia, who still advocate the party's monopoly on power.

The old communist system not only lingers on in Serbia, but seems to be growing stronger as Mr Slobodan Milosevic, the hard-line Communist leader, rides high on a tide of Serbian nationalism, pressing for constitutional changes in Yugoslavia that would reinforce central authority and keep the Communist Party firmly in control.

Slovenia and Croatia have already announced that they will go ahead and draft their own national constitution and have, moreover, warned that Yugoslavia's future can be safeguarded only as a confederation. Dr Jovic, in his inaugural speech, rejected a confederal system, however, saying it would lead to chaos and threaten the very existence of the Yugoslav state.

• ZAGREB: The Yugoslav republic of Croatia said yesterday it would suspend all police who overreacted during a soccer riot involving Croats and Serbs in which about 140 people were hurt. (Reuters)

Fears for future of Europe's currency

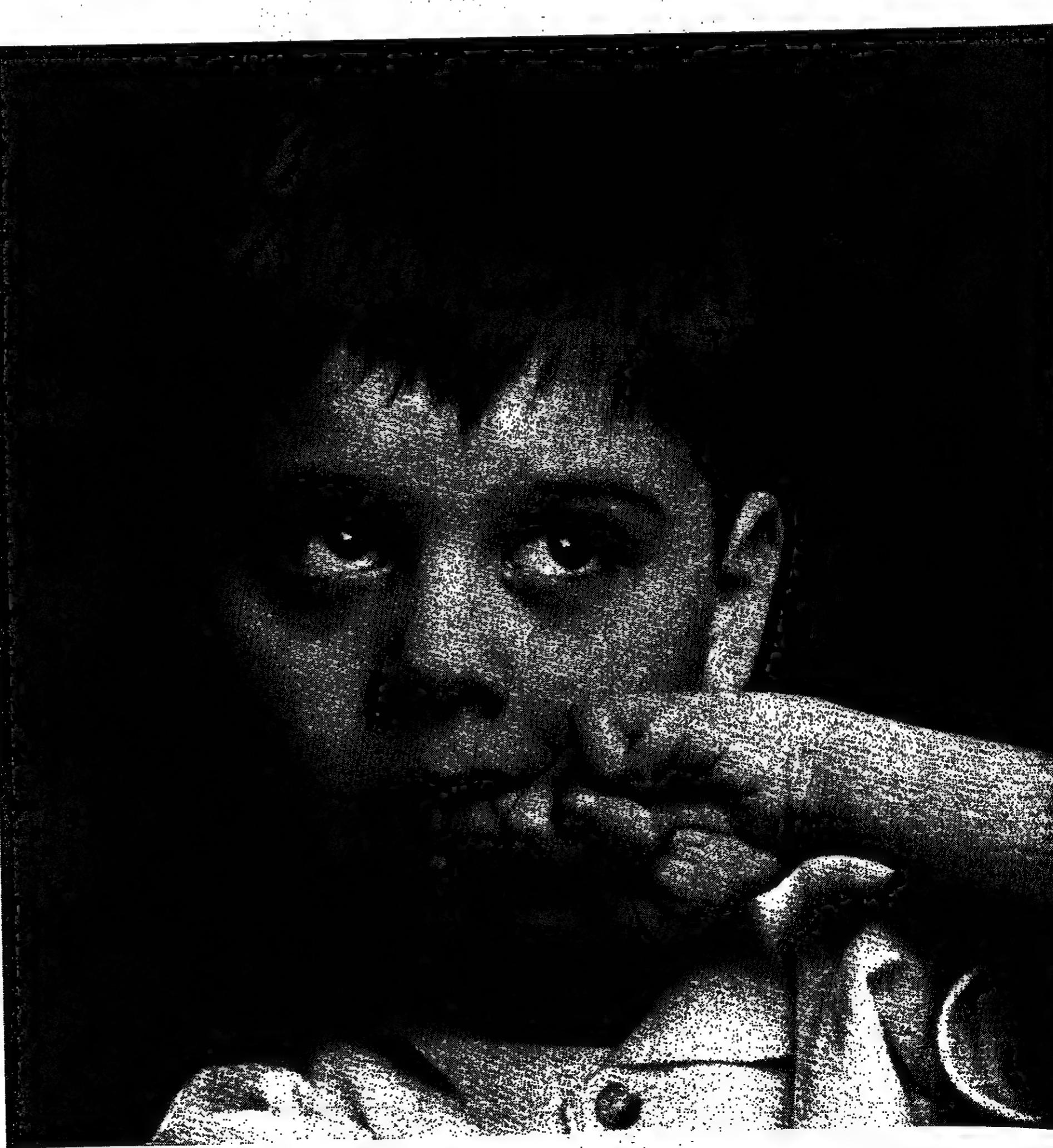
From Michael Binyon, Strasbourg

Indifference and resistance are threatening the use of the Ecu as Europe's common currency, M. Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, told the European Parliament yesterday.

He said that in the first four months of this year the Ecu accounted for only 2½ per cent of the bond market, with a total value of six billion Ecu. Unless steps were taken to reinforce its use, the Ecu would no longer be taken seriously as a European currency in five or six years time.

M. Delors's remarks, during a debate on economic and monetary union, appeared directed at the Deutschmark and its overwhelming strength as Europe's de facto reserve currency.

MEPs from almost all political groups expressed strong support for monetary union. But the left, especially the large Socialist group, expressed strong reservations over the independence of the proposed European System of Central Banks, known as Eurofed. Several insisted that if the Community did not retain some political control over Eurofed it would not be able to conduct an economic policy of its own.



**He's seven years old. He's been blind since birth.
So how come he's scared of the dark?**

Remember the Bogey-Man? Did you ever actually see him?

Surely not, but that wasn't too much consolation at the time, was it?

Blind children too, know exactly who he is. And bedtime holds just the same fears for them as it holds for sighted children.

It's something we're made acutely aware of every day at the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

Namely, that Britain's 22,000 visually impaired children are children first and blind second.

They need to be loved. They need to have fun. And, of course, they need to be educated. Because, with

the right education, the potential of a blind child, like any other child, knows no bounds.

That's where the three RNIB Sunshine House Schools come into play.

There, our specially trained teachers create warm, loving and stimulating environments where blind children can get the kind of education they really need.

Needless to say, this costs money. That's why the RNIB

Looking Glass Appeal has now been set up to help fund our schools and all the other services we run to help Britain's one million blind and partially sighted people live their lives to the full.

We need to raise £10 million, and every penny counts.

Please give what you can.

I enclose a cheque payable to RNIB or please charge my Access Visa card with the amount of £ _____

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Postcode _____

RNIB, Freepost 26, London W1E 3QZ
For credit card donations ring Charityline 0839 77772. Calls charged at 25p per min cheap rate. 38p per min at peak rate. 17.5p per min of call charge goes to RNIB.

**R N I B
LOOKING
GLASS
APPEAL**

Who will call for sacrifice?

Martin Jacques

There was a strong sense of *déjà vu* about the latest retail price figure. Not because it was similar to the previous month or the month before that, but because it was a reminder that the issue of the 1970s has returned with a vengeance. Inflation may have stalked the last decade, but for the most part it was only as a memory. Somehow nothing is more symbolic of the unravelling of Thatcherism than the return of the issue that it pledged to remove from the economic landscape. When Mrs Thatcher was elected in 1979, inflation stood at 10 per cent; now it is 9.4 per cent.

By this time next year, it is true, inflation should have fallen considerably. The retail price index can be massaged over a two-year period: what goes up can subsequently come down. The special factors operating now – poll tax, excise duties, high mortgage rates – should have eased in a year's time to present a more attractive picture as the election approaches. The danger is that the present figure will provoke high wage settlements and thereby a wage-price spiral. Already wage settlements of around 10 per cent are becoming the norm, and if inflation continues to rise through the summer, then that figure too will increase.

The Government may or may not succeed in holding the line on wages. It certainly will not be easy. Take workers in the private sector. Apart from the low-paid, they have done extremely well ever since the end of the recession in 1981. Their pay packet has been the true beneficiary of Thatcherite prosperity. Their expectations are high and are now to be disappointed for the first time in almost a decade. The mechanism, as in 1979-81, will be unemployment, which is already beginning to rise in some areas.

Then there is the public sector. Here, the great majority of employees did very badly, compared with those in the private sector, during the 1980s. Teachers, local authority workers and civil servants, for instance, have fallen seriously behind. The majority of academics, perhaps the most extreme case, now earn less in real terms (excluding age increments) than they did in 1971.

The result of all this has been demoralization: staff shortages and discontent in much of the public sector. But the rail and ambulance disputes suggest that some groups at least now feel that their is not a lost cause, that public opinion is moving their way and that the Government's aura of invincibility has begun to fade.

As it seeks to hold down public-sector pay in its battle against inflation, the Government could face some uncomfortable disputes over the next year or so. Labour, perhaps, can be thankful that it is not in the Govern-

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

Last week, a friend who is the poetry editor of a distinguished publishing house told me he had a writing proposition to put to me. We agreed to meet for breakfast at Blakes Hotel.

Being an optimist, I am no good as a poet. Optimism ruins my scansion; as I am always reading lines back to myself in a peculiar, rushing way, thus falsely convincing myself that they scan. I was pretty certain, therefore, that he would not be wanting any poems from me, but he has interests beyond, or beneath, poetry, and I thought that a scholarly introduction or an anthology of some sort might well be on the cards.

Until then, my experience of publishers' proposals had been somewhat haphazard. Soon after I started writing, I was approached by a packaging company and asked to write a history of lingerie. I said I knew nothing about it, but they said not to worry, they would supply all the necessary information. I was tempted, but then they said they wanted 40,000 words within a fortnight, and I felt my creative energy drain away.

During the next year or two, suggestions that I might ghost-write the autobiography of Sir Hardy Amies and a Denis Norden Book of Practical Jokes came to nothing. Things seemed to look up when a publisher asked me to lunch at the Roof Garden Restaurant in Kensington. He had told me over the telephone that he thought he had an idea that might interest me. By this time, I had grown sufficiently experienced as an author to know that no idea is ever mentioned until a good five minutes after the main course is finished. Sure enough, while we were toying with pudding, the publisher put his proposition to me.

"What do you think of Phil Collins?" he asked.

"Nothing much," I replied. "Neither one thing nor the other, to be honest."

"Great!" he said, excitedly.

"Just the man we want!" He had been looking for someone to ghost-write Phil Collins's auto-

biography, he explained, but everyone else he had spoken to either hated Phil Collins's music or loved it. The publish-

ment's shoes. Indeed, its hope must be that the whole issue of public-sector pay will surface in a major way before the next election. For herein lies one of the trickiest problems it will have to face if it should form the next government. According to the Cambridge economist R.E. Rotham, the cost of allowing public-sector wages to make up the ground they have lost relative to private-sector wages since 1981 stands at £6 billion, assuming the latter remain constant.

This is a sharp reminder of the material legacy of the Thatcherite era. The great majority of people in the private sector have done extremely well, at the expense of most in the public sector; and at the expense too of investment in public infrastructure and manufacturing industry.

As we peer into the decade that lies ahead, it is precisely that legacy which is beginning to haunt us. There is a growing perception that the public sector needs more money for both wages and investment. And the still yawning balance of payments deficit serves to underline the fact that our manufacturing sector is both too small and insufficiently competitive.

The problem is that any Labour government we are likely to get will be too weak to do much about all this. The priorities of the last decade would have to be replaced by completely new ones. This is already beginning to be vaguely recognized. People are worried about the state of the public infrastructure; to a lesser extent they are bothered about the competitiveness of our manufacturing sector. But they certainly do not draw the conclusion from this that some sacrifice is required on their part, that they should forgo part of their pay increase to finance improvements in the public sector and in manufacturing.

The Thatcherite vision may be fraying at the edges, but there is as yet no new one to take its place.

So Labour, still understandably timid after all these years in the political wilderness, says little apart from commanding its financial rectitude to one and all. Its priorities, in fact, will not be so different from the present government's. You can barely read the phrase "tax increase" on its lips. Labour will give a bit more money to the public sector, but not a lot. Beyond that, it will refuse to budge. That means it will be quite prepared to sit out public-sector strikes, should that prove necessary. I am not complaining. It is how things are and will be. But the consequence is that the kind of shift in priorities and capital that is really needed will remain a dream, the case virtually unmade.

There is just one rider I would add. Perhaps those defence cuts and the much-mooted peace dividend will ride to the rescue. But that is another story.

Looking back on the unhappy parliamentary history of Romania during the 1920s and 1930s, Richard Seton-Watson once remarked that the Romanians frequently had elections, and the government always won. Since ballot-toggling had been elevated to the status of a national folk-art, the normal way to change the government was to resort to a *coup d'état* or a revolution. Sadly, in this sense, Romania has returned to form after the nightmare years of Ceausescu's rule.

The demonstrators permanently camped in Bucharest's University Square to protest about the ruling National Salvation Front's handling of the current election campaign clearly do not expect much good from Sunday's joint presidential and parliamentary elections. Their scepticism is understandable when so few Romanians have any experience of running multi-party elections, and those few are officials who took part in the manipulation of the 1946 vote which resulted in a landslide for the pro-communist National Democratic Front.

The protesters argue that the

Salvation Front's domination by once (and, they fear, future) communists makes free and fair elections impossible. Leaving aside the widespread intimidation of the opposition during the campaign and the sabotaging of their newspapers by "inefficient" printers and distributors, rumours abound that the voting will not be secret. In a technologically backward society like Romania, it is easy to frightening people with stories of hidden cameras. Since the voting will normally be in police stations, even the most level-headed may be inclined to believe such rumours.

The police (Ceausescu's old police) are under the control of the interior minister, General Gheorghe, whose role in the suppression of the revolt in Timisoara last December gives little grounds for public confidence.

To be fair to the Front, it was gentlemanly enough to let everyone see how far its preparations for the elections left them open to manipulation. It has allowed five long days to count the votes and agreed to allow in foreign observers only when it was too late for them

to be properly organized and distributed throughout the country. The few scores arriving just in time for the poll, and with many leaving before the full results are announced, cannot offer the blanket coverage which 3,000 observers provided in Nicaragua, which has an electorate only one-eighth the size of Romania's. Little wonder that the students of Bucharest have already adopted the slogan, "The only solution is a second revolution."

In all probability, the Front's heavy-handed approach was unnecessary. Whatever electoral upsets have happened recently, its candidate, Ion Iliescu, should have started confident of success despite his membership of Ceausescu's politburo 20 years ago. For most Romanians life is better today. They have more food, light and heating than in the dismal decades under Ceausescu. After dithering on the land question, the Front has begun to split up the collective farms and hopes to earn the peasants' gratitude by doing out land to potential voters.

Despite talking about market reforms, the Front has tried to

build up a clientele in the moribund rust-belt factories by promoting the fear of unemployment which an opposition victory will bring. (To be on the safe side, it also prevented the opposition from organizing in the workplace.)

The opposition parties are so hopelessly riven by personal rivalries that the merits of their policies are hardly discussed. The inability of either the Peasants' Ion Ratiu or the Liberals' Radu Campeanu to renounce his own candidacy in favour of a united anti-Front presidential candidate has done much to discredit the opposition.

Prominent former dissidents, such as Dumitru Cornea, have been openly critical of the Front but refuse to endorse either opposition candidate.

The leaders of the Front vehemently deny that they remain communists at heart. But while they may have abandoned communist ideals, their methods of

as they have a policy, it is not communist, but Peronist. They have promised higher wages and a shorter working week. They have asked for foreign investment but

refused to accept unemployment or factory closures.

Romania is a Latin island in a Slavic sea and many Romanians instinctively look to the Spanish model of transition to democracy after 1975. However, Iliescu is not like Juan Carlos, a figure above politics. The Front's sacrifice of necessary economic reforms to the political imperative of building an electoral clientele threatens to lead Romania down the Latin American path of hyper-inflation, economic stagnation and political polarization.

Before the Front can reach that unhappy stage, it has both to win the elections on Sunday and to persuade the protesters occupying the centre of Bucharest to go home peacefully. Iliescu knows that it was the failure to disperse the students in University Square which marked the downfall of Ceausescu. If he uses force to assert his authority, he will have to loose a potential civil war. Victory on Sunday, by fair means or foul, will be only the start of his problems.

The author is a lecturer at Oriel College, Oxford.

Mark Almond sees Romania falling victim to all the ills that beset Latin America

After Ceausescu, a whiff of Peron

The demonstrators permanently camped in Bucharest's University Square to protest about the ruling National Salvation Front's handling of the current election campaign clearly do not expect much good from Sunday's joint presidential and parliamentary elections. Their scepticism is understandable when so few Romanians have any experience of running multi-party elections, and those few are officials who took part in the manipulation of the 1946 vote which resulted in a landslide for the pro-communist National Democratic Front.

The protesters argue that the

Salvation Front's domination by once (and, they fear, future) communists makes free and fair elections impossible. Leaving aside the widespread intimidation of the opposition during the campaign and the sabotaging of their newspapers by "inefficient" printers and distributors, rumours abound that the voting will not be secret. In a technologically backward society like Romania, it is easy to frightening people with stories of hidden cameras. Since the voting will normally be in police stations, even the most level-headed may be inclined to believe such rumours.

The police (Ceausescu's old police) are under the control of the interior minister, General Gheorghe, whose role in the suppression of the revolt in Timisoara last December gives little grounds for public confidence.

To be fair to the Front, it was gentlemanly enough to let everyone see how far its preparations for the elections left them open to manipulation. It has allowed five long days to count the votes and agreed to allow in foreign observers only when it was too late for them

to be properly organized and distributed throughout the country. The few scores arriving just in time for the poll, and with many leaving before the full results are announced, cannot offer the blanket coverage which 3,000 observers provided in Nicaragua, which has an electorate only one-eighth the size of Romania's. Little wonder that the students of Bucharest have already adopted the slogan, "The only solution is a second revolution."

In all probability, the Front's heavy-handed approach was unnecessary. Whatever electoral upsets have happened recently, its candidate, Ion Iliescu, should have started confident of success despite his membership of Ceausescu's politburo 20 years ago. For most Romanians life is better today. They have more food, light and heating than in the dismal decades under Ceausescu. After dithering on the land question, the Front has begun to split up the collective farms and hopes to earn the peasants' gratitude by doing out land to potential voters.

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build up a clientele in the moribund rust-belt factories by promoting the fear of unemployment which an opposition victory will bring. (To be on the safe side, it also prevented the opposition from organizing in the workplace.)

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as they have a policy, it is not communist, but Peronist. They have promised higher wages and a shorter working week. They have asked for foreign investment but

have only just begun to penetrate the British debate. Similarly in criminology: the sensation caused in America by *Crime and Human Nature* by James Wilson and Richard Herrnstein – which tipped the balance of causation from nurture to nature – caused hardly a ripple on these shores.

As well as neglecting our shared problems, we are obscuring our shared ideals. The United States is still the world's most successful capitalist economy, judged by its ability to deliver real wealth (rather than high asset prices) to its populace; yet this achievement has been hidden by the lurid fantasy of New York finance too memorably depicted in Tom Wolfe's *The Bonfire of the Vanities*. Britain is busy adopting as its commercial ideal the more ponderous, and welfare-encumbered, West German model or the ideologically-planned French example. Our future seems to be with Jacques Delors rather than Henry Ford.

Yet the US remains highly historically self-aware: the American dream is a selectively-interpreted version of the promises of its Founding Fathers. As Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's national security adviser, put it: "A people's historical consciousness shapes political attitudes, helps to define national priorities, and contributes to constancy in the exercise of national power." But when George Orwell wrote that "those who control the past control the present", his insight was dismissed as cynicism.

So long as Britain seeks an American strategic commitment to Europe, one necessary condition of success in the long term is a degree of British cultural commitment to America. American studies in British universities are more than a litmus test of the seriousness of the British élite in sustaining these links: they are the pillar of one end of the transatlantic cultural bridge. If Oxford takes a major new initiative in the humanities as part of its heroic appeal for new endowments, and if it decides that American studies shall be the beneficiary, we will know that the great and the good have recognized the problem. But if not, not.

The author is a fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

Jonathan Clark regrets the decline of American studies in Britain – and with it transatlantic understanding

The United States is turning away from Europe. That has been the overwhelmingly prevalent British view since the destruction of the Berlin Wall prompted James Baker, the US Secretary of State, to announce the beginning of "the post-war era".

Capturing the public mood, a hitherto unknown official in the State Department, Francis Fukuyama, shot into the headlines with his diagnosis of the end of history through the triumph of liberal-democratic capitalism. If our ally is perceived as abandoning its international role as champion of Western ideologies, British commentators are increasingly struck by evidence of mounting isolationist pressures within the US.

As usual, most tend to obscure our view of America. Far more remarkable than rational American cost-saving responses to the decline of the Soviet threat is the larger, and hardly-remarked, British cultural disengagement from America. The US eagerly seeks to build up channels of communication with Europe to offset military disengagement: Britain is massively indifferent.

Even Conservatives now subordinate the American example: the white Anglo-Saxon Protestant ascendancy may be slowly declining in the US, but America's attention to Britain's history and culture is still vastly larger than our attention to theirs. There may now be fewer right-side-of-the-tracks old-school American liberals teaching the story of England's constitutional liberties in Ivy League universities, but British studies flourish on scores of campuses across the continent in a range of new forms.

This is true much more widely, too. In the 1950s and 1960s a cult for things American profoundly modified English taste, at the indignation of the P.R. Leavies; but since then, jeans and Coca-Cola have become common currency, and it is in English modes which now enjoy a vogue in the US. Far from being all Americans now, we notice American cultural influences less and less. More and more, we turn to Europe instead.

There were always two aspects

of the special relationship: the strategic, sustained by diplomatic manoeuvring and imposed from above, and the cultural, which derived from an identity of language, ethnicity and culture. Either or both could be lost; and while we worry about sustaining the first in a post-Reagan world, we fail to notice the ebbing of our will to sustain the second.

What do we lose by turning away from America? First, we suffer a diminishing understanding of our own culture. The crisis of self-image among British historians and the debate on history in the national curriculum



have been fuelled not only by the collapse of the Marxist version of British history since 1979, but by the slower and more concealed fading of that liberal-constitutional tradition which once bound America and Britain in a shared inheritance of representative institutions and the rule of law.

We also lose insight into our social ills from this failure of identification. Much of the most original research into the underclass phenomenon has been done in the US, but despite the considerable similarities with Britain, works like the Harvard-based Charles Murray's *Losing Ground*

put actors and playwrights centre stage and is dedicated to the exposure of sterile, gimmicky artistic directors who take, take, take but give nothing in return." Prominent among those he does have time for – "doers, not takers" – are Alan Ayckbourn and Kenneth Branagh. Every year Spud will present the "most unnecessary" artistic director with – what else? – a potato.

The society also plans a book of director-knocking anecdotes. One is Sir John Gielgud's tale of being rehearsed for the part of Oedipus by Peter Brook in the 1960s.

The casting couch-potato, by Julian Symons, is a collection of stories from the 1960s and 1970s, with contributions from the likes of Alan Alda, Elizabeth Taylor, and Elizabeth Taylor.

During motivation exercises for the scene in which his eyes are put out, Brook urged Gielgud to think of the most horrible thing he could imagine. "We open in three weeks," was Gielgud's response.

Dagger drawn

Thirty-seven years ago, 13 sinister figures, all steeped in crime, gathered at the National Liberal Club. There, under the eye of John Creasy, author of more than 700 detective

novels, and over corned-beef sandwiches and tea, they plotted to form the Crime Writers Association. Today's meeting will be much grander: champagne and canapés at the House of Lords, and the award of the Cartier Diamond Dagger to founder member Julian Symons in recognition of a life-long contribution to crime fiction. He is only the fifth recipient. Symons' latest novel, *Death's Darkest Face*, masquerades as non-fiction, but for literary initiates, the game is given away by the title – a quotation from *Vortigern*, an 18th-century Shakespearean hoax.

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REACTING TO LOCKERBIE

The natural human reaction to the Lockerbie tragedy was horror. The world expressed outrage at such cruelty to innocent people and baflement that any cause could possibly justify such ghastly means. That reaction remains valid. No community should allow diplomacy or *realpolitik* or the passage of time to weaken the aversion to terror as a political weapon.

The publication yesterday of the American commission report on Lockerbie should evoke a different response. The report shows that specific security lapses contributed to the disaster and that both the Federal Aviation Administration and Pan-Am failed to take adequate measures before and, extraordinarily, after the event. The report suggests that tougher pre-emptive action against terrorist targets would be in order, including military or covert strikes.

Since costly precautions had been instituted to prevent the specific disaster that occurred, the anger against the FAA and Pan-Am is understandable. There are a multitude of risks that the public is expected to accept daily – not least on the roads – where the danger of death or serious injury is far greater than in the air. The difference is that, in this case, prevention was possible. There is no point in trying to make flying safer if those responsible cannot be relied on to do their jobs. Counter-terrorism has made international travel extremely inconvenient. Passengers will accept inconvenience only if it is effective. As in so many areas of security, all the computer hardware in the world can be wasted through human error.

That said, the lessons of Lockerbie must not be lost in anger against both the terrorists and those whom they have successfully made their scapegoats. Anger should be tempered by caution. Should flying now be made even less convenient? Should a similar security net be thrown round trains, boats, tunnels, stadiums, theatres, shopping malls, anywhere people congregate, anywhere the terrorist can be assured of media coverage? Should we react to all terrorism by raising its profile, by doubling security guards and trebling expenditure?

The answer is no. The terrorism/industrial complex now threatens to become as pervasive as was the military/industrial complex in

response to the Cold War. The purpose of the terrorist is to use killing to a political end, to sow fear and despair within democratic communities and thus induce governments to change policy. The terrorist knows well the Chinese proverb, "Kill one and frighten 10,000". Though politicians may choose to imply otherwise, terrorists are seldom random psychopaths. They are pursuing politics by murder.

The first step to giving in to terrorism is thus, simply, to be terrified. The next is for governments to offer a synthetically "tough" reaction, hurling resources and publicity the terrorist's way. The Lockerbie report's call for military strikes against "terrorist targets" offers the prospect of tit-for-tat killings across Europe and the Near East. In such a climate, terrorism does not collapse, it flourishes. States may use force where they can avert certain bloodshed without generating further violence. But real life rarely presents such clear-cut options.

Since terrorism is about appearances, so too is the task of countering it. Many Britons were dismayed last week at the sight of squads of bodyguards two rows deep flanking the American Vice-President, Mr Dan Quayle, when he visited London. Like the high-tech fortresses that are America's embassies, the manifestation of fear – the scar tissue of public terror – has become almost a status symbol. Britons would be equally dismayed if the response to the IRA's London bomb on Monday was to turn every military and police building in Britain into a castle, or to surround Mrs Thatcher with gun-toting SAS men. That is what the IRA wants, along with armoured cars for ministers, the end of party conferences, bag searches in department stores and a barrier to Downing Street. So far, only the last has, quite wrongly, been conceded.

The key to a sensible response to these outrages is restraint. The IRA and other like-minded groups are contained not just by sound police and military intelligence but also by a refusal to let civil and political life be undermined. At Lockerbie, terror scored a partial hit. A cautious response will show who really won.

GREEN POLICING

At an environmental conference this week in Bergen, Norway's Prime Minister, Mr Jan Syse, departed from normal references to the millennium and proposed immediate steps to force European governments to improve their global stewardship. They should, he said, agree a binding – and therefore enforceable – code of conduct in areas such as energy conservation and industrial pollution, and submit their performance to vetting by other governments.

There would, said Mr Syse, be an annual examination of each country's policies by other European governments, building on the successful precedent of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's peer inspection of economic policies. Governments would have to notify others of plans involving environmental risk or cross-frontier pollution. They would in turn be able, individually or jointly, to conduct on-demand inspections of other countries' installations, similar to the intrusive verification clauses in arms control agreements.

The idea of international "green policing", which is at the heart of the plan, has received a dusty response from Mr David Trippier, the British minister present at Bergen. He agrees that there must be international monitoring of activities liable to cause transboundary pollution, such as the disposal of hazardous waste. But he insists that routine enforcement should be left to national agencies.

British industry, in his view, would never tolerate inspection by a multilateral green police force. His officials confess themselves scandalized by the idea that inspectors from Norway, 90 per cent of whose air pollution derives from Britain and Eastern Europe, could descend on Britain's power stations to check the sulphur dioxide emissions which reach Norway as acid rain. What, they argue, would Norway think of foreigners counting its whale population? (Norway, in fact, has invited other countries to do so.)

Supranational plans always invite scepticism. The 35-nation Conference on

and Cooperation in Europe, to which Norway will take its proposals later this year, could discuss them, but only discuss. A more appropriate framework – if it can avoid the European Commission's tendency to over-bureaucratize – is the nascent European Environmental Agency. At Bergen, non-EC European states, including Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, were invited to participate in the agency. But its remit so far extends only to information-gathering. Agreeing a code of conduct would be difficult enough; policing it multilaterally would, as Mr Trippier says, require a quantum leap.

That is no reason for dismissing the idea. International policing may, as Mr Trippier maintains, never be as effective as informed pressure from below. But countries are blood brothers when they discuss the environmental challenge, cut-throat competitors when it comes to regulation which may affect their industries' competitiveness.

Europe (above all when Eastern Europe is included) is not a level playing field: countries with unregulated industries and cheap labour forces can undercut environmentally-conscious competitors. That reinforces the case for regional standards, even if the hideously-polluted Eastern European countries will require considerable extra time to adjust.

Politicians tend to favour the long view on the environment, not always for respectable reasons. Action today, especially if it hits individuals' pockets, is politically risky, while, in the long term, to adapt Keynes' aphorism, they will all be out of office.

Mr Syse personally presented Norway's modest, practical proposals to Mrs Thatcher in March in London, where he aired them publicly for the first time before the Royal Society. She could give Britain's claims to international leadership on the environment a needed boost by giving them a fair wind than her minister. Green police could be as useful, and come to seem as natural a form of cooperation, as Interpol.

NEW WRINKLES ON OLD AGE

Having done so much to endow young people with respect for others and confidence in their own capabilities, the Prince of Wales is giving his attention to the old. In a thought-provoking speech yesterday, the Prince turned the tables on grey-haired grumbler. He invited those fortunate enough to reach old age in good health to ask themselves what contribution they might still make to a society in which most now expect to live long after retirement.

Although old age has always been part of the human condition, traditional thinking about the "third age" offers little guidance. From Cicero to Simone de Beauvoir, from Montaigne to Norbert Elias, the autumn of human life has usually been regarded as a trial: to be borne with stoic cheerfulness and indifference to advancing decrepitude. Death often seemed to be the lesser evil; to die nobly in youth or middle age was easier when only misery awaited those who lived to be old.

Little of this seems relevant to the legions of robust, prosperous retired people who today populate so many of the best-kept towns and villages. The stereotype of the Old Age Pensioner has outlived its usefulness. It has even become counter-productive: the image of dependency which it conjures up does nothing to galvanize the elderly.

The debate to which the Prince has contributed should not become bogged down in arguments about retirement ages, statutory or otherwise. As long as seniority remains the principal criterion of promotion in so many walks of life, each generation will impose more or less arbitrary cut-off points in order to make way for the young. Yet the idolization of youth

in Europe and America between the two world wars, intended to sweep away all vestiges of gerontocracy, played into the hands of the Nazis and Communists. In the 1960s, youth was similarly overestimated. Dissolving the rigid demarcation line between work and retirement seems more in keeping with modern longevity.

Instead of tinkering with the age of retirement, Prince Charles is right to emphasize the goal of widening the activities available to those who have retired, voluntarily or otherwise. The prodigious range of accumulated experience and talent among the retired on which the arts, charities, schools and churches draw is still under-exploited.

Take the case of conservation and the environment. Without the efforts of millions of retired people, how many species of animals and plants would have become rare or extinct? How many buildings would have perished for lack of care or money? The fact that the greening of Britain does not have to start from scratch is largely due to the devotion of the old to this country.

Fifty years ago this week, the militia was formed which later became the Home Guard. Though the threat of invasion soon receded, the nation's affection for Dad's Army has lasted. A call not to arms but to peaceful activity in the community, should evoke a similar response today. Is it too far-fetched to ask Prince Charles to consider giving his ideas institutional form, not replacing, but complementing existing bodies like the Women's Institute and the British Legion? He has proved that he is more than equal to the task.

Heseltine and local government

From the Chairman of the Association of County Councils

Sir, In his letter of May 12, the Chairman of the Association of District Councils affirms, predictably, what he describes as Mr Heseltine's argument for abolishing county councils in favour of a single tier of multi-purpose authorities ("The poll tax: let the people choose", May 10).

In fact, Mr Heseltine makes the far more limited proposal that "we should restore the identity of the old single-tier county borough for our major urban areas". That is very different, but hardly realistic. For example, police and fire services these days need to be delivered at the county level to make the best use of technology and skilled human resources in the fight against organised crime and large-scale disasters.

Moreover strategic and structure planning, and of course transportation policies, so crucial to the maintenance and enhancement of the environment, require a dimension wider than the farthest urban area if town and county are to be managed effectively and a proper balance maintained between them.

What is surely clear beyond question is that any debate of this kind must be wholly removed from that relating to the community charge. A proper relationship between central and local government requires a system of local government finance which recognises the true cost of administering and delivering local services and the real financial consequences of new legislation and local demand.

It is only upon the basis of such a system that the partnership which Mr Heseltine advocates, and we welcome, can be restored.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN CHATFIELD, Chairman, Association of County Councils, Eaton House, 66a Eaton Square, SW1.

May 14.

From Mr Roland Freeman

Sir, Mr Heseltine's long awaited proposals for improvements to the community charge are a welcome sign of new thinking within the Conservative Party. His suggestion, *inter alia*, that local referenda should be conducted if councils grossly overspend in close to my own view, based on chief officer experience in four English boroughs.

The budgetary cycle should be amended to permit the publication of costed charge estimates two or three weeks before elections are held. Already first-time charge payers are beginning to question the financial effects of some council policies, and provided statutory standards are not impaired, this is precisely one of the aims of the charge principle.

Yours sincerely,
ROLAND FREEMAN,
14 Northridge,
Northiam, East Sussex.

From Mr Paul Sykes

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Yours sincerely,
PAUL SYKES,
3 Grange Close,
Great Harwood, Lancashire.
May 10.

From Mr Alan Benstead and others

Sir, On May 17 the Law Society will debate proposals by its training committee on pre-entry training, whose quality David Blayney (May 1) argues may be diluted. As heads of three of the biggest polytechnic law schools providing Law Society Final and Common Professional Examination courses we would make the following points:

1. There should be a fundamental review of the substantive law content of the course. In effect all of the substantive law could be covered by using materials provided before the course begins and through the use of research skills undertaken in conjunction with the transactions which will form the core of the course.

2. We welcome the devolution of responsibilities for the assessment of the course to institutions that have the experience and have demonstrated the capability of delivering to the requirement standards. However, our support is conditional upon the development of effective monitoring mechanisms which we in the polytechnic sector have had substantial experience with as a result of our relationship with the Council for National Academic

Awards, Her Majesty's Inspectorate, internal validation and other professional bodies. We look forward to the Law Society using our expertise in the development of such mechanisms which we consider crucial to the successful operation of the course.

3. We support the proposed flexibility in the various routes to attending the LPC (Legal Practice Course). Our institutions have led the way in the provision of access courses, part-time courses and distance learning. We welcome in particular the opportunity given to law schools to offer an LPC course integrated into the LLB degree as well as part-time courses. Indeed, given the current number of part-time students, demographic changes and the recruitment difficulties which firms, particularly in the provinces, are experiencing, we consider a part-time route an absolute necessity.

Yours faithfully,

ALAN BENSTEAD (Head of Bristol Polytechnic Law School),
ALAN BLAKE (Head of Leeds Polytechnic Law School),
NIGEL SAVAGE (Head of Nottingham Polytechnic Law School),
Bristol Polytechnic, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol, Avon.

May 11.

Sale of paintings

From Mr Anthony Hopkinson

Sir, You reported (May 8) that the Royal Holloway and Bedford New College plans to sell three of its paintings to raise funds for restoration of buildings and maintenance of the picture gallery.

The Gainsborough was painted in 1770, the Constable in 1821-22, and the Turner in 1844. Thirteen other pictures are from 1844 or earlier, but most of the 79 works in the collection date from the 1870s. When he bought the pictures in 1881-83, Thomas Holloway was mainly collecting the work of his contemporaries.

It would be sad to see three great works leave the collection, but much sadder if no funds could be found to stop the degradation of the remarkable college buildings.

Yours sincerely,

ANTHONY HOPKINSON,
Melbourne Bury,
Royston, Hertfordshire.

May 13.

Childcare taxation

From Ms Sue Harvey

Sir, The House of Commons will consider on May 16 the Government's proposal to exempt certain forms of employer-sponsored childcare from taxation. This could be an important opportunity to improve the lot of working parents, many of whom daily have to cope with the consequences of Britain's childcare crisis.

Whilst I welcome the Government's recognition of the need for childcare, I fear that the proposal as currently drafted will do little for most working parents. It is too restrictive in its scope. The employer subsidy on many forms of childcare will continue to be fully taxable. As it stands only

about 3,000 parents are likely to benefit.

Parents using childminders, for example, will still be taxed on any employer subsidy. This is because the Finance Bill excludes support for childcare based on domestic premises. Moreover, the requirement that employers be involved in the management of childcare is likely to be a major barrier for many employers (especially small employers) as well as many types of childcare.

Community-based nurseries and out-of-school clubs, particularly, are bound to find that employers are unable to get involved in their management. Parents who use such facilities will therefore be unable to claim tax exemption on any employer subsidy. Cash allowances and vouch-

ers to pay for childcare will also continue to be taxed.

It is to be hoped that the Government and Parliament will re-examine the Bill. Are the current proposals likely to make a real contribution towards increasing childcare provision? Will it cater for children of all ages, maximise parental choice and encourage partnerships between employers, local and central government and the voluntary sector?

This important Government initiative should not become a missed opportunity.

Yours faithfully,
SUE HARVEY
(Managing Director),
Childcare Vouchers,
Luncheon Vouchers Ltd,
50 Vauxhall Bridge Road, SW1.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Talk and chalk on the curriculum

From the Headmaster of Colfe's School

Sir, Mr Richard Watson (May 11)

advises independent schools to put the National Curriculum on the back burner and criticises Dr Arthur Hearden (report, early editions, May 5) for recommending its adoption. What is widely recognised is that the National Curriculum will bring a number of benefits to the education system and, just as strongly, that as far as we are currently aware, it contains a number of serious flaws.

Mr Heseltine's plan requires a fresh election where a council's budget exceeds by "a given percentage" the Government's calculations of the sum needed to provide a proper service". Remarkably he assumes that the man in Whitehall really does know best what constitutes a proper service in hundreds of different local authorities throughout Great Britain. That is essentially a bureaucratic premise which he then seeks to reinforce by an *ad hoc* democratic process.

It would be more straightforward to recognise that nearly half local government's current expenditure requires a general grant at all and should be for elected councillors to raise through local taxation. The rest, principally education and police, ought to be financed by 100 per cent earmarked grants making responsibility for them unambiguous. Central government always calls the tune on these two services and it should therefore pay the whole cost to the paper.

Yours sincerely,

ROLAND FREEMAN,
14 Northridge,
Northiam, East Sussex.

May 11.

and for giving schools and teachers a reasonable share of teaching time to develop their areas of strength. We shall continue to work for the improvements which will enable all independent schools to embrace the National Curriculum wholeheartedly.

Yours faithfully,
V. S. ANTHONY (Chairman, Academic Policy Committee, Headmasters' Conference), Colfe's School, Horn Park Lane, SE12, May 11.

From Mr Norman Isaacs

Sir, Mr Watson advises circumlocution on the National Curriculum. While, undoubtedly, there is much in the prescriptions to give cause for concern (and the threat to the survival of the second foreign language, as well as Latin and Greek, is particularly worrying), little good will come if teachers are to resort to contumely.

It is simply not true that the documentation has been devised and written solely by escapists from the classroom, and a glance at the composition of the various working parties will quickly show this to be a misconception. The initial advice recently published by the Modern Foreign Languages Working Group, for instance, is a stimulating and challenging report with many pages of useful suggestions for the practising teacher, offered by men and women most of whom are still working hard at what was once affectionately known as the "chalk face".



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 13: Lieutenant-General Prem Chand, Indian Army (former Commander of the United Nations Forces in Cyprus and Namibia) was received by The Queen.

Mr D.J.M. Dain was received in audience by Her Majesty upon his appointment as British High Commissioner to the Republic of Cyprus.

Mrs Dain was also received by The Queen.

Mr John Macrae was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Rabat.

Mrs Macrae was also received by Her Majesty.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a Private View of the Paul de Lamerie Exhibition at Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster Lane, London EC2V 6BN.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received by Sir Hugo Huntingdon-Whiteley (Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company) and the Lord Adrian (Second Warden).

The Duchess of Grafton, Sir Geoffrey de Bellalou, Sir Robert Fellowes and Wing Commander David Walker, RAF, were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning opened the Prince Philip Hospital, Ilanelli and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Dyfed (Mr David Mansel Lewis).

Mr Brian McGrath was in attendance.

The Queen was represented by the Earl of Caledon (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for County Antrim) at the funeral of Mrs Edmunds, Cardinal Tomas O'Fiaich which was held in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, today.

The Prince Edward this evening dined with His Excellency the New Zealand High Commissioner, the High Commissioner's London Residence.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

The Princess Royal this morning visited Surrey and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Surrey (Mr Richard Thornton).

Her Royal Highness visited the Home-Start Scheme at Camberley and afterwards opened Kingsclere Old Folks Home and Pinchun Resource Centre for Elderly People.

Her Royal Highness Chancellor of the University of London, this afternoon visited the British Postgraduate Medical Federation to launch the new Medical Education Research and Development Unit and was received by the Vice-Chancellor of the University (the Lord Mayor).

This evening Her Royal Highness, Honorary Colonel, University of London Contingent Officer Training Corps, received the Corps Headquarters at Yeoman's Hotel, Hotel Street, WC1, and was received by the Second Honorary Colonel (Surgeon Captain (Retd) T. Naylor).

Mrs Charles Ritchie was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as President of the British Olympic Association, will attend a general purpose committee meeting at Lady's Woodwork, Plain, SW18, at noon; as President of the WRNS Benevolent Trust, will attend the annual meeting at the Victory Services Club at 2.30; and, as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will attend a council meeting at the Royal Thames Yacht Club at 4.25.

Princess Margaret will attend a luncheon at the Adelaide Club Community Day Centre, Ryde, Isle of Wight, at 12.30; will visit the County Primary School and Community Hall, Newchurch, at 2.35; and will open the St Vincent's holiday apartments, built by the Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts Workshops, Ryde, at 3.30.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Grand Prior of the Order of St John, will attend the enthronement

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 13: The Prince of Wales, Patron, the Abbeyfield Society, accompanied by The Princess of Wales, attended the Society's Annual General Meeting at Central Hall, Westminster.

Mrs Max Pike, Commander Alistair Watson, RN, and Mr Richard Arbiter were in attendance.

The Prince and Princess of Wales gave a lunch at Kensington Palace for representatives of groups concerned with the care of Anglican Churches.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, today visited the Haberdashers' Aske's School for Boys at Elstree.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Hertfordshire (Mr Simon Lyon).

The Countess Alexander of Tunis was in attendance.

May 15: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, as President, was present at a Meeting of the Ladies' Guild of the St John Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem at 1 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1.

Mrs Michael Harvey was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester today presented the Gulbenkian Museum and Gallery Awards at the British Museum, London WC1.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this morning attended Service of Thanksgiving and Dedication to mark the formation of the National Asthma Campaign at the Chapel of St Mary Undercroft, Palace of Westminster, and was subsequently entertained at a Lunch given by the Speaker of the House of Commons (The Rt Hon Bernard Weatherill, MP) at Speaker's House, London SW1.

In the afternoon, Her Royal Highness attended the first Annual General Meeting of the National Asthma Campaign at Central Hall, Westminster, London SW1.

Mrs Howard Page and Miss Suzanne Marland were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

May 15: The Duke of Kent, as Patron of the Imperial War Museum, this morning opened the 'Wings Across the Atlantic' at Duxford Airfield, Cambridge.

Captain the Hon Christopher Knollys was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
May 15: Princess Alexandra, President of the Children's Country Holidays Fund, was present this morning at the Town and Country Meeting which was held at Westminster Cathedral Hall, London SW1.

The Lady Mary Munkin was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, 17th/21st Lancers, this afternoon received Lieutenant-Colonel Stanshaw Longdon, Colonel of the Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Cumming upon relinquishing the appointment as Commanding Officer and Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Gordon on assuming Command of the 17th/21st Lancers.

Sander Gorlinsky, the noted impresario, died in London aged 82 on May 12. He was born in Kiev on February 28, 1908.

THANKS to Sander Gorlinsky, London had its first post-war taste of true Italian opera. In the autumn of 1946 he brought the San Carlo Company from Naples to Covent Garden. Four years later he performed a similar operation for La Scala, Milan, this time with the Edinburgh Festival being added to the itinerary.

On a more personal level it was Gorlinsky who persuaded Maria Callas to make her first Covent Garden appearance in the title role of *Norma* in November 1952. It was one of the most acclaimed debuts made in the house in the last half-century and later Gorlinsky became both her manager and her personal representative. On Callas's recommendation Tito Gobbi advised him to take on a similar function.

Sander Gorlinsky left his native Kiev as a small boy when his family moved to Berlin. But with the rise of the Nazi Party he thought it prudent to push on to Paris where, as a young man, he became an agent promoting ice show acts, dance bands and comedians.

Whilst on holiday in Ostend in 1938 he noticed a plush hotel called the Royal Palace standing empty. Within weeks, he had obtained a contract from Billy Butlin to rebuild the property and run it as a 700-bedroom Butlin pleasure-ground. However, the war intervened and before long Gorlinsky was on the last boat out of Ostend, sailing from the harbour as the bombs were being dropped.

Instead of being in charge of the Royal Palace he found himself in Gloucestershire running 30 hostels for agricultural workers. Whilst placing Icelandic cod contracts, he was dreaming about returning to his old business of being an impresario, but on a rather higher level than during the Paris days.

In 1946 this dream turned into reality. Gorlinsky decided that the English troops stationed in Italy during the war had heard some Italian Grand Operas and would therefore be receptive to more of the same at home in Britain.

He sent a postcard to Beniamino Gigli. Gigli responded by saying that he would love to give rentals in

OBITUARIES

SANDER GORLINSKY



Gorlinsky with his most famous client, Maria Callas

England but was concerned about being accused of collaborating with the enemy: he had performed in the presence of both Mussolini and Hitler.

Gorlinsky was happy to take the risk. He travelled by jeep through Italy to Naples, where he parcellled up the entire San Carlo Opera Company and delivered it to Sir David Webster at Covent Garden. Gigli included. The Company brought half a dozen of the most popular Italian operas to the Royal Opera House in the autumn of 1946 and Gorlinsky's bunch about the British hunger for music proved correct.

Inspired by this success he laid siege for three years to the world's most famous opera company, that of La Scala, Milan. Gorlinsky brought them in 1950 to Covent Garden (with *Oello*, *L'elisir d'amore* and *Falstaff*) and to the Edinburgh Festival.

At this time he was promoting around 250 concerts a year both in London and the provinces, with major orchestras conducted by such people as Sir Thomas Beecham, Sir Malcolm Sargent, Sir John Barbirolli, Jascha Horenstein and Henry Krips.

He began to challenge Covent Garden with seasons of Italian opera, first at the Stoll Theatre in May 1953, and then at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. The productions

were often rickety, but the singers were frequently distinguished and among them there were a number of voices the public longed to hear. Gorlinsky provided the chance. There was a memorable opening night on a foggy January evening in 1958 with *La forza del destino* put on at an estimated cost of £15,000 with 10,000 carnations being flown in from San Remo. It went on for hours, but the opera was then an unfamiliar one in London and the audience delighted in it.

In the early Fifties Sander Gorlinsky had already turned towards managing international artists. He persuaded to this country such musicians as Mario del Monaco, Arturo Toscanini, Tito Gobbi, Franco Corelli, Renata Tebaldi and Renata Scotti.

But his biggest coup was to secure Maria Callas in 1952. He had to deal with her then husband, Giovanni Meneghini, who was both elusive and difficult. Eventually Gorlinsky persuaded Callas to sign a contract with Covent Garden to sing Bellini's *Norma* at £250 a performance in 1952. The rest is history: expectations ran high and on the opening night Callas exceeded all of them. When she divorced Meneghini, who had handled most of her business affairs, she immediately engaged Gorlinsky as her personal manager, and that he

remained until the end of her professional career.

He knew how to handle her: he understood her liking for presents, even tiny ones. He connived with her delaying tactics with management she delighted to tease. He even knew how to deal with Onassis during his time with Callas. Gorlinsky stood by her to the end, even during the final appearances when there were regular ructions with the tenor Giuseppe di Stefano, who was appearing with her.

In fact it was Callas who told Tito Gobbi to put his contracts in the hands of Gorlinsky, which he did. The other singers managed by him over the years included Montserrat Caballé, Alfredo Kraus, José Carreras, Ruggero Raimondi, and Piero Cappuccilli. In dance he has represented Rudolf Nureyev, Natalia Makarova, Flemming Flindt and Yoko Morisita.

Sander Gorlinsky became a British citizen and was decorated by both the Italian and Bulgarian governments.

In recent years he was casting manager for the productions of *Aida*, *Turandot* and *Nabucco* at the Palais Garnier and *Aida* at Earl's Court.

Sander Gorlinsky had constant support in his career from his wife, Edith, who survives him, and that he

Luncheon

Lord Rothschild
The Prime Minister, Mr Edward Heath, MP, and Lord Rothschild and their ladies attended a memorial service for Lord Rothschild held yesterday in the West London Synagogue, Upper Berkeley Street, W1. Rabbi Hugo Gryn officiated. Sir Leonard Hoffmann, Lord Swann, also represented the Royal Society.

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ANDREI KIRILENKO

Andrei Pavlovich Kirilenko, one of the most powerful members of the Politburo under Brezhnev, died on May 12. He was born on August 26, 1906.

Kirilenko was usually fulsome in his praise of Khrushchev (and, indeed, later of Brezhnev) and in his speeches backed the former strongly on most issues. But, in common

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

Who am I so sad? Why am I so troubled? I will say my hope in God, and not even with pride him, my saviour and my God. Psalm 42: 6

BIRTHS

BARTH - On May 8th, to Maureen and Stephen, a daughter, Lucy Victoria.

BENNETT - On May 8th, to Tim and Rosanna (Stormont-Darling), a son, Asia, a brother for Ivo.

CREAM - On May 10th, at 10.30 a.m., to John and Janice Wheatsheaf, and Thomas Michael, a brother for Elizabeth Clares.

ELLIOTT - On May 13th, to David and Barbara, and Barbara, a son, Richard James.

FERGUSON - On May 15th, at the Lindo Wing, St Mary's (Helen's) Hospital, a son, James.

FOSTER - On May 15th, at the Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, to Robert and Barbara, and Barbara, a son, Richard James.

GARNETT - On May 13th, to Suzanne (née Rose) and William, a daughter, Amelia Maria Rose, a sister for Tomas.

HICKLING - On May 9th, to Anne and David, and Richard and Anne, a daughter, Jennifer.

HOUGH - On May 16th, to Jackie and Robert, a son, William Edward Gordon, a brother for Allister and Jonathan.

JARVIS - On May 10th, to Sarah and Adamson, and Simon, a son, Benjamin Christopher.

KING - On May 10th, to Karen (née Rouse) and David, and Helen, a son, Henry.

LAWES - On April 24th, to Robert and Sheila, a son, Alexander William.

LEWIS - On May 8th, in Tasmania, a wife (née Gambari) and Peter, a son.

MCLELLAN - On May 12th, at The Portland Hotel, to Joyce and Neilson, a daughter, Michaela, a sister for Neilson.

PELLOW - On April 13th, to Elizabeth Joanne (née Tonkin) and Andrew Francis, a son, Alexander Nicholas.

PHILIPSON - On May 14th, to Sally and Mark, a daughter, a sister to Henry and Jonathan.

POLES - On May 10th, to Michaela and Michael, a son, William, a brother for Sarah, and a sister for Eleanor.

WALLACE - On May 9th, to Adele, and Michaela, a sister for Julian.

WHITE - On May 11th, 1990, to Jonathan and Christine, a son, Alexander James.

WHITEHEAD - On May 10th, to Beverley and William, and a son, Lawrence William Bruce.

WHITMORE - On May 8th, to Elizabeth (née Duke-Cohen) and Christopher, a son, Benjamin Marcus James.

MARRIAGES

SEZERNA-SLUFF - The marriage took place on May 12th, 1984, in Melbourne, Australia, of Mr William Sezerna and Miss Carolyn Linn.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

GLASTONBURY-STEVENSON - On May 16th, 1950, at St Mark's, Cheltenham, Charles to Jane, and 18th Wedding Park, Gloucester.

DEATHS

BARGATE - On May 8th, peacefully at home, in her Most Excellent Home, Little Easton, Essex, Kenneth Alfred, aged 76 years. Much loved father of Christopher, and his wife, and friends. Cremation at Farnham Woods Crematorium, on May 16th at 3 p.m.

BARTLETT - On May 14th, suddenly at her home, in her 80th year. Alexander James, a son, and a daughter, Barbara.

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ARTS

From the land of uncertainty

Krzysztof Kieslowski, whose *Ten Commandments* films are now being broadcast on BBC 2, talks to Roger Boyes

There is nothing Moses-like about the gaunt, chain-smoking figure of Krzysztof Kieslowski, although there are times when, like Moses, he is angry with his own people. His remarkable series of films based on the Ten Commandments does not so much set down the Law as describe how people operate within it. The films are moral fables defining choices and constraints in a no-man's-land of brutalised high-rise blocks that could be his native Poland, or could be anywhere. *The Times* critic, David Robinson, wrote that *A Short Film About Love* - the latest to be released in the cinema - "comes as near perfection as may be".

Kieslowski is intense, a graduate of the Seventies' "cinema of moral anxiety", constantly angry in a controlled Swiftian sort of way with his audience in Poland ("disgusting, aggressive attitudes"), and with television ("horribly vulgar") and with politics. The Poles are in a limbo between a disintegrating communist past and a dimly perceived, not entirely attractive capitalist future. Kieslowski documents the dilemmas but does not offer solutions.

"You in the West say that we need money. Not true. Poles need certainty - our problem is the lack of it. Imagine that an Irish terrorist, or whoever, shot Mrs Thatcher tonight: what would the English do the next day? I asked somebody this recently and it emerged he would take the same bus to work, go to the same office, have the same boss and the same employees and he would go to the same cash-dispenser before lunch. But if in Poland somebody shot Tadeusz Mazowiecki [the Premier], everything would change overnight. "That's the difference, you see. We have no certainty about tomorrow. So of course everybody is grabbing everything as fast as he can. Uncertainty breeds a grasping society."

The theme of Kieslowski's films, from his early documentaries such as *Factory*, to the courtroom drama *No End* (1983), has been the friction between public and private lives. Under communist rule that seemed to make him a profoundly political film-maker.

Workers, in 1972, was a weave of observation of working life: how workers drink and cheat and squeeze enjoyment out of the day. The commentary was not particularly barbed or weighted because the audience, stuffed full of communist visions of clean-cut, noble working-class heroes, did not need

nudging. "I am not a political director but I often take pictures of people in political situations. In Poland a political film, anything political, is always connected with words. Words as an honest means of communication have been liquidated and so I try to avoid them."

Even so, Kieslowski, a former colleague of film-maker Krzysztof Zanussi, comes from a political generation which was initiated by the student riots of 1968 at a time of dirty game-playing within the Polish Communist Party - and broke finally from any sentimental attachment to socialism in the winter of 1981.

Kieslowski completed his course at Lodz film school in 1968 and tried, with other students, to defend his professors from a vicious anti-Semitic campaign.

The defence of the students was regarded as proof positive of a "Zionist plot" and the professors were sacked and expelled from Poland. "I turned out to be a political fool and became very cautious," he says.

Not neutral, though. "Of course communism is a lie and a folly, but that does not mean communists are devils," he adds. "Some of them are fools, many of them ill-willed, others are frustrated people of good will. I try to understand what each of them wants."

Although his films are distanced, they are never quite anthropological. He is usually standing next to his hero, behind his shoulder. When he does not - as in *From the Point of View of the Night Porter*, a portrayal of a low-level Nazi - the films tend to be less successful, out of focus.

When General Jaruzelski declared martial law in 1981, Kieslowski reached a turning point. His adult life bracketed by the violence of 1968 and the violence of 1981, he decided that politics was poisoned. Suddenly private lives and private choices seemed more important than exposing political hypocrisy.

"For many years," he says, "I had noticed that when somebody closes the door of their apartment from the inside, communism vanishes. Now people were fencing off more and more, declaring communism off-limits."

The Ten Commandments presented themselves as a natural way to explore this terrain. The commandments are an odd collection, seeming to give equal weight to such diverse sins as killing, adultery, theft and blasphemy. That carries over to some extent in Kieslowski's 10 films, which viewed week after week on television give

an uneven feel. The most controversial, perhaps the best film in the series, is *A Short Film About Killing*, a detailed account of how a youth murders a taxi-driver, is arrested and sentenced to death. It is plainly an indictment of capital punishment which is still in force in Poland and many of the new East European democracies. But the public pleading of the film fits uncomfortably next to the very personal *Short Film About Love*, or some of the more skittish attempts.

But Kieslowski is not bothered. The unity of the 10 films comes, he says, in the creation of a common atmosphere, a thread of anxiety that runs through the whole work. Television, he has decided, does not serve them well (cold comfort here for BBC 2 viewers) and the films are best viewed in the cinema. As for the semantic cohesion of the Ten Commandments, that is something to be puzzled out by the audience.

"Frankly the commandments are a pretext. If the films were to be direct illustrations of the commandments I would have ended up with sermons. So I made 10 films, 10 stories, connected in some way.

"It occurs to me that all storytellers use the commandments as a

reference. *Crime and Punishment* draws on the same commandment as Number Five, *The Brothers Karamazov* refers to the same commandment as Number Four. Whatever we touch is about the commandments because they are so constructed as to encompass our whole lives."

The relevance of the commandments has not been dulled by time, says Kieslowski, since they are the essence of contemporary law and a measure of behaviour. "Take the instruction not to lust after other people's wives. Fine, it sounds old-fashioned. But you can see that in the America of 1990, and gradually here in Europe too, people have stopped screwing around. Of course it's the AIDS problem, but suddenly it appears that returning to the law makes sense for people and society."

"You see, the commandments govern the important and the unimportant, but that is the nature of our lives, a blend of the significant and the trivial."

Plainly Kieslowski has hit on a universal theme after years of addressing Polish or East European audiences. At 49, he is at last gaining recognition through this film series, which is to be shown in several West European countries as well as Britain. Partly this is because he and other filmmakers have lost their natural Polish audience. "The Polish film audience disappeared with martial law; people retreated to their homes. Before I felt obliged to give the Poles what they expected, now I don't know what they want."

Certainly the Poles were not much taken by the films. The influential film critic Zygmunt Kaluzynski reckons that they "take place in a world that does not exist" - Kieslowski has a calculating mind, likes to stretch himself on cases like an aspiring lawyer and the result is an empty series, meaningless and simultaneously solemn and buffoonish.

That is too harsh and judges Kieslowski on the wrong scale. He is not making comfortable television situation drama, but a multi-layered film that asks questions about life under stress. "It's a bad mistake to look around and see what people want," he asserts. "There are no clues to film-making apart from one's own biological clock. That is the only reliable guide."

• Krzysztof Kieslowski introduces two of his films at the Duke of York's Cinema, Preston Circus, Brighton, as part of the Brighton Festival, on Saturday, 6.30pm. Information: 0273 602503. The third in the Ten Commandments series is broadcast on BBC 2 on Sunday, 9pm-10pm.



ROSEMARY (VICKY LICORISH, LEFT) AND FREEDOM (MARCIA MYRIE)

Spirited symbols

THEATRE
Jeremy Kingston

Desire
Almeida

unwind a clew through the maze of unfamiliar habits and assumptions. This is another young guerrilla, a live one this time, well spoken by Michael Buffong, and his name is Danger. The dead girl's name was Freedom (Marcia Myrie, with glowing eyes), and what Lan has grafted into his story of possession is a tale of revolution undermined by a little act of cowardice. It is a graft that does not take because once you see what the author is after the characters acquire a glaze of falsity as they go sliding into a predetermined place.

The spirit of the dead Shona girl, killed in the war for Zimbabwe's independence, is visibly there on Richard Hudson's sun-cracked stage, eyeing her childhood friend Rosemary, who keeps doubling up with stomach cramps and discovering curious bruises on her abdomen. The girl died too young, say the village elders: she wants someone's body to live in.

Rosemary vacillates between her doting father (Louis Mahoney) and her loving husband (Cyril Nri), the first a former headman, the second a government employee never seen without his spray gun. His job is to kill tsetse fly, but, like some other characters he doubles uneasily as a symbol - in this case, Death.

It is quickly evident that Rosemary's father is somehow the cause of her unwise behaviour. Alternately bold and docile, her complex of emotions is touchingly suggested in Vicky Licorish's unblinking eye and sorrowful, half-open mouth. Incest, it is good to report, is not the issue here. Lan's conclusions are more original - though you could find a precedent in Priestley's *An Inspector Calls* - and, once Rosemary can vent the pent, her pains end. So the whole palaver is psychotherapy clad in the vestments of religion.

What Lan's own feelings are about this process remain unclear. He delays until very late the entry of the only character who can

FOR most listeners today, *The Children's Crusade* would probably evoke Britten's poignant ballad for schoolboy voices on Brecht's tale of displaced Polish children in 1939. But this quixotic venture from Dulwich College, with its distinguished musical tradition, went much further back in both music and legend. Their *Crusade* was composed in 1902 by Gabriel Pierné, on the medieval legend of children lost at sea en route to the Holy Land, and was here sung in a new and variably free English version by Eric and Nancy Crozier.

Their labour had been for an intended television production, aborted by industrial and copyright problems. It emerged instead as two-hour oratorio performance in a hall adorned with banners and shields, a choir of several hundred boys wearing what looked like pillow-slips with red Crusader crosses, the adult Wimbledon Choral Society, nine solo singers, the Dulwich College Orchestra stiffened with members of the London Mozart Players, some of whom give musical instruction at the College, and its Director of Music, Michael Ashcroft, conducting overall.

The result, unfortunately, did little to enhance Pierné's reputation beyond that of a sometime

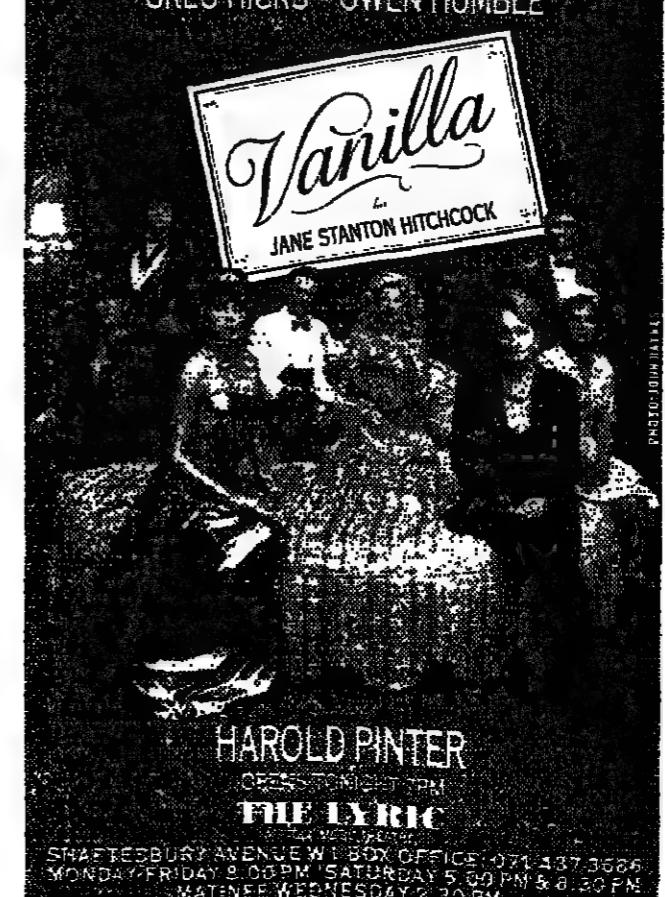
CONCERT
Noël Goodwin

The Children's Crusade
Festival Hall

reliable conductor who died in 1937. His musical idiom in this work has a bulwark of triadic harmony supporting melodic *tenue* in the lyrical French tradition derived from Gounod by way of Franck and the rosewater piety of Massenet. The *Sempre moderato* often noted in the score became a motto for the whole, until one longed for movement at more than snail's pace.

Praise is certainly due to the College boys for singing so securely from memory, in up to three and occasionally four-part writing, to the adult soprano solos ingeniously taken by Janice Watson and Olivia Blackburn, to Adrian Thompson's finely sung Narrator, and to the Headmaster of the College, Lower School, Christopher Field, for his sturdy Mariner's song. The orchestral playing sometimes achieved a welcome transluency of musical spirit into which the occasional daring dissonance dropped like a benediction.

SIAN PHILLIPS * JOANNA LUMLEY
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Gremlins in the system and a smell of failure in the air

A NEW series about the Waddingtons might sound like an Anglicized version of *The Waltons* but, one Waddington being an old-fashioned homely village, the other an old-fashioned Home Secretary, *The Television Village* (Channel 4) is in fact something quite different. The latter Waddington is the local MP of the former, a smallish community in Lancashire which - for the filming of the programme's six parts - was plugged into the stratosphere, home to scores of channels, networks and miscellaneous extra-terrestrial purveyors of pap.

The idea behind the experiment was to rig up a village with the technology to watch 30 channels,

including its own local one, and see what it thought. Does the availability of round-the-clock basketball on the various galactic sports channels turn the viewer into a basket-case? This and other questions will doubtless be answered in forthcoming episodes, but for at least some of part one it was the duty of Waddington the village to meet Waddington the Cabinet minister responsible for deregulating British airwaves.

The encounter went off smoothly enough - they elected him, after all - but the same, alas, cannot be said for the induction ceremony of WWTV. The four young novitiates plucked from the village's own ranks to present the poll tax" (Mr Waddington had

better keep an eye on him). As it was, the *Thought for the Day* was provided by Julie, WWTV's vivacious chief presenter who, when the producer had decided that enough was enough, was heard announcing on air, "what a cock up".

The first programme of *Present Imperfect* (BBC 2), a new documentary series, ditched out the sort of unstinting fly-on-the-wall realism which could never arrive on your screen via a satellite or a cable. Capturing a year in the struggle-weary life of Jackie and Piggy, a newly-wedded east London couple with eight children between them, it had too much subtlety, too much unbearable

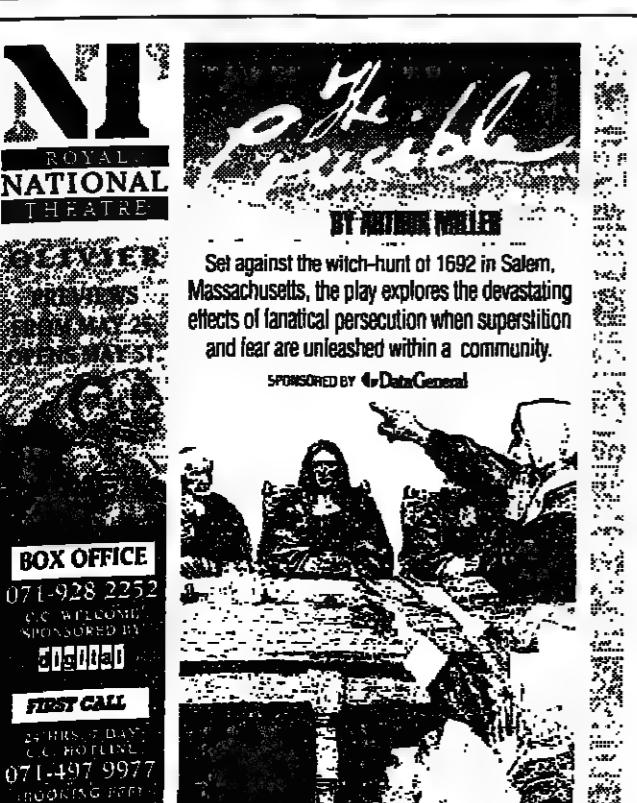
frankness, too much laughter in the dark for that.

Called "For Better For Worse", it was also a rockumentary, but was untypical of the genre because the rock stood for rock-bottom as well as rock music. Piggy, the musician in question, was a drummer, but the point was that he was also a sometime drinker and drug-abuser. Unfortunately, the hand he played in reckoned his inspiration came from the bottle, so they gave him the sack. The wonder of this film was that, sozzled or sober, Piggy was a natural in front of the camera, ready to lighten even his darkest hour with a performance. The rest of the series has a lot to live up to.



Set against the witch-hunt of 1692 in Salem, Massachusetts, the play explores the devastating effects of fanatical persecution when superstition and fear are unleashed within a community.

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Fine acting makes the evening

OPERA
Paul Griffiths

The Threepenny Opera
Tramway, Glasgow

sings the "Ballad of Sexual Slavery" with ripe gusto.

The only professionally trained singers here are Janis Kelly as Polly and Morag McLaren as Lucy, the former bright-toned and winning enough in her main number to make one wish she had a bigger place in the score, the latter throwing everything, wonderfully, at her parody recitative. Kelly also hits the mark in this Scots threepennyworth by making Polly a little Edinburgh miss who can swear with the best of them.

Sara Weymouth as Jenny should unpeel a layer of class; Graham Valentine as Macbeth presumably needs to recover.

FOUR dancers from this small company brought their ballet *Kreutzer Sonata* for a guest showing with Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, three years ago. Now the Brighton Festival offers a welcome chance to see the whole group in two programmes.

The centrepiece of the opening bill was *From My Life* by their director, Pavel Smok. Smetana's First String Quartet is played, very well, by the Kocian Quartet, sitting at one side of the stage, and in concert fills every movement made by the dancers.

The only British choreographer with whom Smok might be compared is Christopher Bruce: they share a gift for making dance dramatically expressive and emotionally rich; they both splice the smooth flow of their sequences with elements from folk dance. Smok's approach is less inclined to narrative, but could not be

at dancers, owing something to Kylian's *Symphony in D* but finding new jokes of its own.

The physical contact here changes its significance. Instead of a tender hand on a partner's face there is an appreciative or admiring pat on the rump. Partnering turns into an ordeal; particularly memorable is a sequence where, reversing the usual roles, one man is bent or stretched into painful attitudes by four women. Mozart's Third Violin Concerto makes an apt if unexpected accompaniment.

Katerina Frankova, one of the company's senior dancers, choreographed the other work given. An attractive lyrical suite of dances to Dvorak's *Waltzes*, Opus 54, it is fresh and varied in mood, and danced with charm and warmth. In all three ballets, Ivana Benesova stood out for her liveliness in an excellent company.

DANCE
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A family at war behind the Gucci label

The Gucci story has all the ingredients of melodrama — a simple country girl marrying into a Florentine dynasty, a beautiful mistress, three squabbling sons. And now, James Bone reports, a bitter battle over the patriarch's will

The Guccis have been making leather goods in Italy since the Quattrocento. And it shows. The Florentine dynasty has brought with it to the modern world the best traditions of Renaissance craftsmanship and a flair for family feuding worthy of the Borgias.

During the last decade, the Guccis have been racked by a series of internecine disputes, each more ferocious than the last. In July of 1982 their differences were made startlingly public when Paolo Gucci, son of the patriarch, Aldo, emerged from the boardroom bearing physical evidence of the heat of the debate — a cut to the side of his head. Now, after the death of Aldo, in Rome in January at the age of 84, his British widow Olwen Price, the 82-year-old mother of his three sons, is preparing to plunge the clan into fresh blood-letting.

Two years ago, Paolo vowed: "If the old man dies without leaving me anything, if he makes a will and doesn't include me, I swear that I'll give the lawyers work for the next 50 years." His prediction seemed certain to come true this month when in a 10-page will filed at the Surrogate's Court in Manhattan, Aldo left half his American assets to "my wife Bruna Palombo Gucci". Bruna Palombo was Aldo's mistress, with whom he had a long-standing relationship, and by whom he had a daughter named Patricia. Patricia, now aged 24, is married to a Venetian wine dealer and was the recipient of the other half of an estate said to be worth more than \$20 million (£12.5 million).

Olwen Price, who lives in Rome, was outraged by the will. Along with two of her sons, Paolo, aged 59, and Roberto, aged 58, she has challenged it, saying it was "procured by fraud, duress and undue influence practised on the decedent by an individual purporting to be his wife, to wit, Bruna Palombo". She claims that she is entitled to the widow's share of Aldo's fortune, which she estimates only as "greater than \$500,000 (£312,000)". Her court papers also contend that the will filed in New York and executed in Palm Beach, Florida, on November 3, 1989, is invalid because it is superseded by a later will handwritten by Aldo in Rome on November 8. The contents of that will are not known, but lawyers for the estate confirm its existence. A document filed by the estate's lawyers, along with the will in New York, lists Olwen Price as Aldo's "wife" and Bruna Palombo Gucci as a "beneficiary".

Aldo was the last surviving son of Guccio Gucci, the Florentine leather merchant who established the modern business and who is immortalized in Gucci's exclusive "GG" label. Guccio had run away to Britain as a boy, where he worked as a dishwasher and waiter at the Savoy Hotel in London before

Famous customers gave the Gucci business good publicity and snob value they aroused. Rodolfo's connection with the film world (he was a star of early silent movies in Italy) was also a help. Among the earlier Gucci customers, pre-dating the firm's openings in New York, were Bette Davis and Anna Magnani. Café names were increasingly setting styles for others to follow. The classic bamboo bag and "hobo" bag, the Gucci loafer with harness bits, the red and green webbing stripes, signature dogeash spring clips on handbag straps and interlocking Gs became status symbols. In the 1960s and 1970s, particularly, Gucci enjoyed enormous success.

But success generated rivalries within the Gucci house. The simmering rows erupted in 1980, when Paolo, decided he wanted to go into business on his own using the Gucci name. The company sued him for trade mark infringement. And so began an epic feud.

In retaliation, Paolo, who now lives in Sussex, exposed his father's failure to pay \$7 million (£4.3 million) in American taxes. Although he could have compromised with Paolo at any time and saved his skin, Aldo's pride would not let him. In 1986, at the age of 81, he was convicted of tax fraud and spent five and a half months of a one-year sentence in jail.

At the same time, Aldo was also locked in a bitter dispute with his nephew Maurizio, the son of Rodolfo Gucci, who had inherited a half-interest in the company when his father died in 1983.



Designer woman: Jacqueline Onassis, a loyal Gucci customer

Maurizio used the interest to seize control of the company, of which he is now chairman. Other family members charged that Maurizio had forged the papers transferring ownership of his father's shares. In December, a New York court finally cleared Maurizio of the charge, overturning a one-year sentence imposed by a lower court. Angered by Maurizio's determination to transform the family firm into a modern multinational, several Guccis, including Aldo, sold part or all of their stake to a group of Arab investors.

On Monday, Paolo insisted that there is going to be a settlement in the dispute over his father's will.

"Everybody will get a fair share, everybody," he said. "We agreed it this morning. Definitely. There is no question of my father cutting my mother out, or getting her to sign away her rights. There is only one will, and nobody can alter

that."

So the will that Bruna claims left everything to her will have to be set aside? "I was in communication this morning with my family," Paolo said. "I am sure we have reached a basis of agreement under which I believe my mother, my brothers and I will all share in the inheritance. Amicably."

Paolo is said to be once again attempting to open a business under his own name.

Was that also being amicably discussed? "There is no question about that," Paolo said. "I shall open on Madison Avenue, New York, in September. Definitely."

Gucci have different ideas. According to their New York spokeswoman, Maurizio plans to stop Paolo, citing trade mark infringement. Given the Gucci's history, the struggles threaten to follow the family into the next generation.

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Primitive tendency

THE early American primitive look is incontrovertible in John Lewis, of Hungerford, Berkshire, has a new range of wooden furniture and a "colonial" kitchen, launched at the interior design trade exhibition at Olympia, west London, this week, and on view at Liberty, in Regent Street, W1. There are six new pieces, including a pie safe — a ventilated storage cupboard designed by 19th century New Englanders — and a three-legged "cricket table" in a choice of seven finishes. Prices range from less than £200 to more than £1,400 for a refectory table.

A job for life

Following the article on the advantages of staying in the rat race (The Times, May 3), Professor Richard Shilling, a consultant in occupational medicine, draws attention to his report in the British Journal of Industrial Medicine last year, which states that "work seems to be essential for both physical and mental health, although one must add the rider that fully occupied leisure counts, for this purpose, as work". It cites the suggestion of Cyril Clarke, "an eminent physician and geneticist", that one reason why women live longer than men could be because "there is no retirement for them whereas many men, after gainful employment ceases, become less active both physically and mentally". Perhaps it is a

BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

good thing that woman's work is never done.

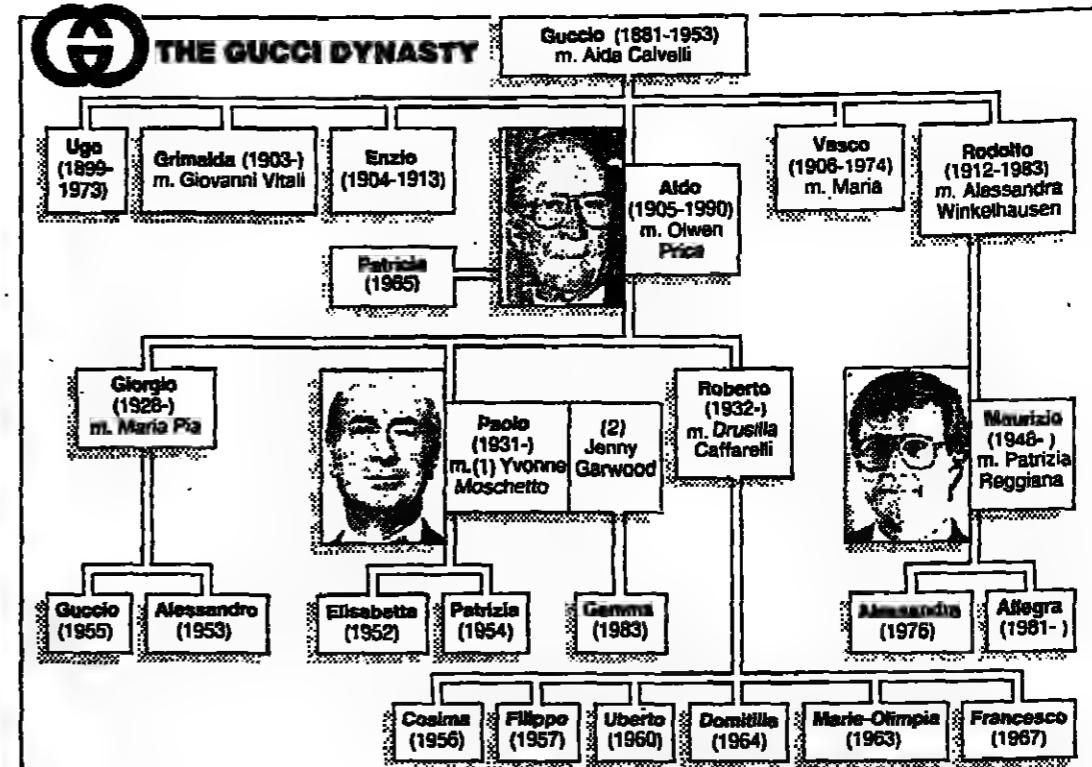
Nobody's niche

Small wonder niche retailers such as Sock Shop have been having trouble recently, when nobody seems to stick to their niche. Tie Rack sells socks, and both Tie Rack and Sock Shop now sell knickers, instead of leaving that to Knickerbox, which is branching out into silk vests and shorts that can be worn as outerwear. Swimwear is the newest addition to the Sock Shop range, with some racy styles in one-pieces and bikinis in bright, fluorescent colours, for £14.99.

Artistic relief

Planning to decorate a nursery with money no object? Original drawings and watercolours by favourite children's illustrators such as Beatrix Potter and Walt Disney will be auctioned at Sotheby's on June 7 and 8 to aid Save the Children. They can be viewed between 9am and 4.30pm on weekdays and between noon and 4pm on Saturday and Sunday from Tuesday, May 29, until Wednesday, June 6.

Victoria McKee



Aldo and his women

For decades, as he built a fortune, there were two Mrs Guccis — one a dutiful wife and the other a beautiful mistress

Aldo Gucci met Olwen Price in Florence in the early 1920s, while he was working in his father's shop. Into the shop one day came a most adorable and pretty girl, Olwen, a lady's maid to a Romanian princess, breathless innocence and freshness. Aldo found her irresistible.

Olwen was the eldest daughter of George Price, a wheelwright, joiner and coffinmaker in the village of West Felton, Shropshire. Olwen had left the village church school (where they taught no exotic languages) at the age of 14 to learn dressmaking.

So, when the news came that Olwen had found herself an "Italian" husband, and that they were to be married in Oswestry, it came as a surprise. More surprising still was that she had taken his religion and was to be married in the Roman Catholic church.

It was known, of course, that Olwen had been given the chance to go to foreign parts. After the dressmaking, for which she was not paid, she had been glad to go into service as lady's maid to Lady Frances Hope, the Duke of Newcastle's grand-daughter. She was still in her teens when Lady Hope's children's governess left to take up a post in Italy with an exiled Roman aristocrat. The governess wrote asking if Olwen would like to join her.

It has always been accepted in the Gucci family that Olwen was a lady in-waiting. This came about because it suited the Romanian family, which could afford no such luxury, to style the maid as lady-in-waiting while paying her the wages of a servant. It was to buy shoes for her employer that Olwen went to call at Gucci — and came under the far from unflattering gaze of the owner's son. They married in 1927.

On their return to Florence Olwen had a surprising adjustment to make. She had married only one Gucci, but she soon learnt that she was expected to take her place in the family as a whole.

In one way Olwen behaved like the best of Catholic wives. She bore her husband three sons in succession, and gave herself wholeheartedly to rearing them. Strains on the marriage began to



The family man: Aldo Gucci and his daughter Patricia

appear only when Aldo wanted her to join him in social pleasures. Olwen was reluctant to leave her growing family.

In the early 1930s Aldo found a new and unusually lovely companion. He was spending weeks at a time in America setting up the opening of the Gucci shop there and he was free to do as he wished. He first met Bruna Palombo in the Gucci shop in Rome where she had been hired by his manager.

She was a magnificent Italian from the south with the raven-haired, soulful-eyed looks of the film star Gina Lollobrigida. Aldo found her irresistibly attractive. When he offered her a job in New York, it was common knowledge that Aldo had found another companion. There were, it has to be said, others, but none with Bruna's staying power.

There was no question of Olwen releasing Aldo from the marriage. So he and his mistress were forced to practise a degree of discretion, while Olwen remained "La Signora Gucci". Under a concordat with the Vatican, Italian law forbade Aldo to live openly with any woman other than his wife.

Aldo bought Bruna a house in England, where in 1961 he had opened a London branch. He then took her to America and installed her in his Palm Beach and Manhattan homes. In 1965, when Aldo was in his sixtieth year, Bruna's child was born — a daughter named Patricia. For the first two or more years of the child's life Aldo lived with them, introducing Bruna as "Mrs Gucci". His long, if intermittent, years with them placed Bruna and

Patricia high on the list of those most likely to benefit from Aldo's estate. Bruna had a car and chauffeur to take her wherever she wanted, and the cachet of signing for credit at the smartest stores in the name of "Dr Gucci". If Aldo's efforts to free himself from his moribund marriage succeeded, Bruna had every right to hope that one day she would be even more favoured.

Divorcing his wife, though, proved infinitely more difficult than either he or Bruna might have believed. In December 1984 Aldo decided he wanted a final legal break. Olwen was living quietly locked and barred gates. Aldo petitioned for an English divorce because the marriage had "irretrievably broken down".

A copy of the petition document was posted to Cittin Road, Oswestry, which had been Olwen's cottage. She heard its contents from Ewart, her brother, with astonishment. Olwen and Aldo had certainly ceased to live as man and wife, but whenever he was in Rome he visited her. She declared that there had never been any mention of divorce, let alone an agreement to seek one. Olwen protested and Paolo and Roberto took up their mother's case. In the legal battle that ensued Olwen made it clear to her lawyer that she did not accept that she and her husband had separated, although she was aware of Bruna. Olwen was upholding her status as his legal wife and ensuring that she stood the best chance of being her husband's benefactor.

Gerald McKnight
• From Gucci: A House Divided, published by Sidgwick & Jackson.

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MEDIA

Why does Whitbread sponsor yacht races, golf and the arts? Geraldine Bedell reports

New ingredients in an Irish stew

British newspapers are now produced with considerable efficiency and most of them are making quite good profits. The heady days of the immediate post-Wapping era may be over; the effect of high interest rates on property and job advertising has cut revenues on even the strongest newspapers. But the over-manning, the obsolete method of double-stroking a keyboard (first by journalists and then by compositors), the ludicrously short working week and the general padding of pay packets are now in the past. Managements regard "new technology" as a battle won.

The position is very different in Dublin, where a major dispute over the introduction of, yes, "new technology" has been in progress for several weeks. The stakes are all the higher because the Irish capital — a city of only a million inhabitants — is the arena for what must be the most competitive newspaper battle in Europe. There are three Dublin dailies: the *Irish Independent* selling about 120,000; the *Irish Times* (90,000); and the *Irish Press* (60,000). They compete with all 11 English nationals. Then there are four Dublin Sundays selling against 10 English Sundays, and there are two Dublin evenings. The Dublin dailies are all selling at higher prices than the English invaders.

At the end of last year Ingersoll Publications, the American-based publishing group headed by the expansion-minded Ralph Ingersoll II, bought a 50 per cent stake in Irish Press Newspapers for nearly £5 million, leaving editorial control in the hands of Eamonn de Valera, grandson of the Irish statesman who founded the paper, but taking full management control (for which they receive a fee which would be increased if the paper went into profit). Since the three Press newspapers have been losing nearly £1 million a year for some time, and since their standard bearer, the *Irish Press*, has fallen from being the best-selling Irish daily to third on the list, it was clear that Ingersoll intended to take fairly drastic measures. That is what the current negotiations are about; they are not going too well.

While Mr Barney O'Rourke of the Irish Press Union (representing the compositors) says the principle of "direct input" has been accepted, there are substantial hurdles. The management is seeking to make redundant some 72 IPU members out of 103; the union wants all departments to be on a voluntary basis. The management wants a five-day week throughout the paper; at the moment a

four-day week (of only 28 hours for IPU members) prevails. The IPU says this is not negotiable. The journalists are ready to use the "new technology", but before they negotiate a payment for it, they want a rise of some 15 per cent to make up for annual increases due to them under national wage negotiations but not paid because of the parlous condition of the company. And there is a considerable disparity between the redundancy terms offered to the print workers by the company and those sought by the unions; these are so high that it would take some 17 years before the savings would start to pay off.

The management faces another problem. The unions have agreed that none will sign an agreement unless all sign. Further, the NUJ and the IPU have agreed terms for a merger. At the moment this is stalled because the NUJ is an English union, and under a law recently passed to facilitate Irish mergers, those with "foreign" unions were barred. An appeal is planned, and meanwhile the NUJ will not take any IPU jobs.

There have already been some 50 meetings between the two sides and it is difficult to sniff the scent of compromise. It is all too reminiscent of the near-fossilized rites

which once masqueraded as "negotiations" in Fleet Street, when the print unions simply did not believe they could ever be defeated.

In Dublin, however, the unions have noted two significant points. First, Ingersoll recently told the *Irish Times* that Irish Press Newspapers could go into liquidation if profitability could not be restored. Secondly, the existing premises have been re-zoned for inner city development and could be worth up to £8 million. So Ingersoll could close the *Press* and walk away with a profit.

I am sure he would prefer to make the papers pay. If he obtains the efficiency he seeks I am assured that he would employ more journalists, put in new equipment, in new premises, and invest another £8.5 million in the company. He has made a success of his investment in the Midlands; relaunches of all three Birmingham papers are planned for the autumn.

If the precedent of the English print unions was followed, the Irish union leaders, rather than negotiate to produce a genuine commitment to produce a profitable and successful newspaper, would be ready to see all 900 jobs lost. But this is Dublin, where the unexpected often happens. I hope it does so again.



Author Richard Holmes (left) with chairman Sam Whitbread

When the first of 22 ocean-going yachts race into Southampton this weekend, they will not only be finishing a nine-month, high-profile sporting event, they will also be bringing a £200 million business enterprise to a close.

The yachts in the Whitbread Round the World Race have names like Rothmans, Merit and Steinlager 2, all promoting products that are no longer easy to advertise on television, and certainly not in association with athletic achievement.

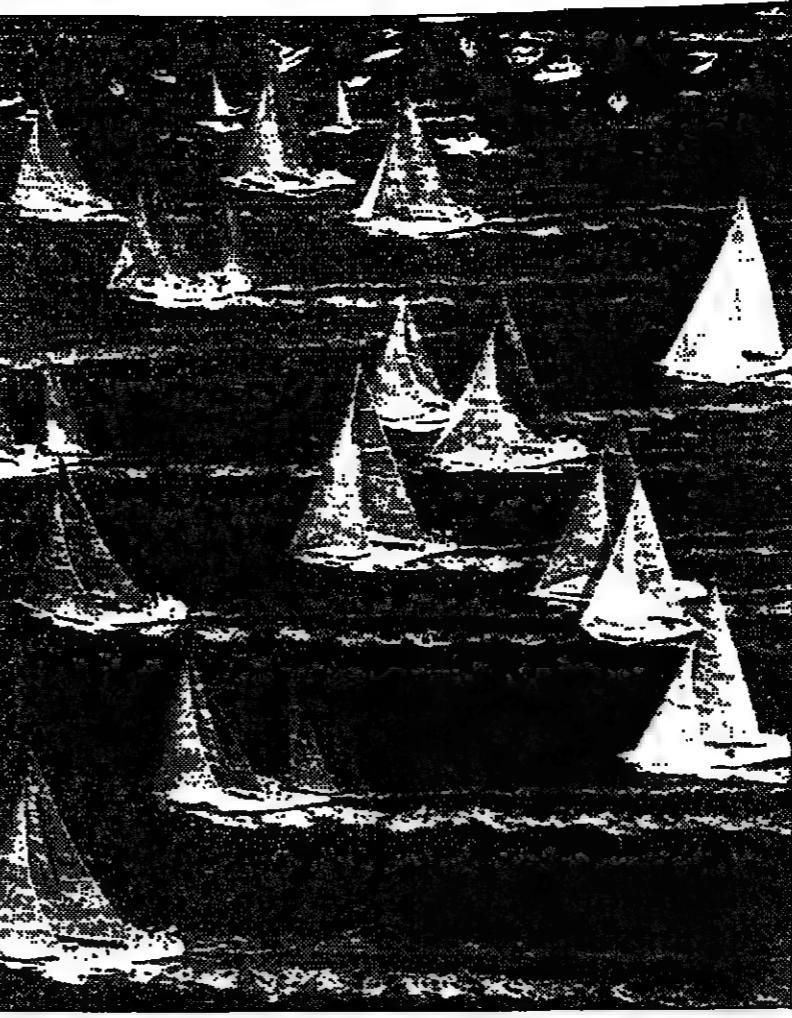
Some of the sponsors may have paid not only for the yachts, but also the salaries of up to 12 crew members and all back-up. Or backing may have been less comprehensive: some crews have paid companies for the privilege of entering the race.

Rothmans International, one of the biggest backers, admits to having spent £6 million. There are also numerous sub-sponsors, such as British Telecom, which has organized all the ship-to-shore communications and press centres in ports of call.

Big sporting events are no longer merely about sport. "The race is basically a major communications vehicle," says Paul Vaughan, sponsorship director for Whitbread, which held the first race in 1973. The competition to back such events is now so intense, Mr Vaughan says, that unless they are fortunate, companies virtually have to start their own. "If you wanted to sponsor the Barclays [football] League, you'd probably have to wait a long time."

Many events start small and stay that way. But for Whitbread, the four-yearly race has grown impressively. This year's, the fifth, has had television coverage in 140 countries and on programmes such as *News at Ten*, considered to have far more impact than an advertising break.

The race is never mentioned without the Whitbread name, which is not a bad return on its reported £4 million investment this time round. The figure is less than some of the yacht sponsors are spending, although Mr



Plain sailing: Whitbread sees the race as a "communications vehicle"

The audience Whitbread hopes for from the Round the World Race is "opinion formers, the graduate recruitment market, and the wider community". Sponsorship, which is tax deductible, can be useful in helping a company look more responsible; Mr Vaughan says Whitbread hopes to associate the next Round the World race more closely with its business in the community activities.

Sponsorship can also be used to overcome advertising restrictions. It is no accident that sponsorship has grown over the past 10 to 15 years as greater restrictions have been placed on advertising, not that alcohol and tobacco companies lead the field.

Rothmans has linked its Round the World sponsorship to on-pack promotions, allowing the use of imagery not a million miles from its old airline-captain advertising.

Whitbread plans to link the next race to educational material. "Subjects like geography, design and art can all be linked to the race," Mr Vaughan says. He denies that there is any school resistance to this type of salesmanship in the classroom. "Only 50 per cent of our business is beer. The other half is made up of things like Beefeater Steakhouses and Pizza Hut, where we do want to reach children. And, in fact, the educational establishment is crying out for sponsors of GCSE packs to aid teachers."

Whitbread also sponsors tennis, golf, racing, ice hockey and Rugby League, and spends an estimated £78,000 on the Whitbread Book of the Year, won this year by Richard Holmes for *Coleridge Early Visions*. "We do less arts sponsorship; it is directed at a much smaller audience — government, the City and other opinion formers," Mr Vaughan says, but, at £22,000 for the winner, the Whitbread is the biggest of the literary awards.

However, gauging the effectiveness of sponsorship is more difficult than for advertising. "We know the volume of coverage, and we can equate that to advertising frequency," Mr Vaughan says. But the two may not be directly comparable: advertising is branded and carries a stronger sales message.

A study to ascertain whether the public associates the yacht race with Whitbread has had "very encouraging" results. But does this translate into consumer action? Would the race motivate the public to buy Whitbread-owned products? "Sponsorship cannot replace advertising, but it is an important additional plank in our strategy," Mr Vaughan says. It performs a more subtle, wide-ranging function. Puritans can find much to object to in it: the directors' perks, the subtle messages that would not be permitted in advertising, the reading of consumers, like children, who would not otherwise be reached. But, without Whitbread and all the companies backing yachts or involved as sub-sponsors, the Round the World Yacht Race would probably not exist.

World-wide sails drive

Paul Vaughan says Whitbread has to underwrite considerably more.

The opportunity for subtle image building is a strong attraction of sponsorship. "Round the world yacht racing is similar, in terms of glamour, to Formula 1, which we couldn't do because of the drink-driving connotations," Mr Vaughan says. "The race is technologically at the leading edge, it's environmentally sound, and it's all about human endurance and the pursuit of the ultimate challenge."

But, Mr Vaughan stresses, "you can't just write the cheque and walk away. Effective sponsorship involves a hectic round of sales promotion and tying in brand names."

Sponsorship is not just a matter of alerting consumers to a good deed done. There are internal spin-offs that

are important for company morale. Large numbers of Whitbread employees were at Southampton last September for the start; a team of Beefeater Steakhouse managers was in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for the start of the last leg, and two directors have been at each port of call.

Perks are clearly part of any sponsorship package, and it must be easier to sell an event that looks attractive to a board of directors. Mr Vaughan acknowledges that sponsorship was once wholly determined by what directors liked to do in their spare time, but he believes this is no longer the case.

"The criteria now are, first, whether an event is strategically relevant, and, secondly, what the audience and reach will be," he says.

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MEDIA

Those obvious objects of desire

From Michael J.
Fox and a cola
bottle to the Ninja
Turtles with a taste
for pizza, product
'placing' in the
cinema is booming,
James Bone reports

Two of the great Hollywood studios, Walt Disney and Warner Brothers, announced recently that they would no longer allow their films to be shown in cinemas in America which show advertisements before the main feature.

The move won applause from film buffs, tired of sitting through interminable soft-drink advertisements. A poll sponsored by Disney claimed that 90 per cent of the public wanted to be rid of the ads. Disney's pay-cable television channel is also advertisement free.

But the studios' seemingly altruistic decision has backfired by focusing attention on the insidious and increasing business of "product placement", in which studios accept payment to feature particular merchandise in the film itself.

Even as it was enjoying the plaudits of filmgoers for its decision to ban advertisements from cinemas, Disney was alleged to be sending out letters soliciting product plugs in its next film, titled *My Destiny*.

According to *Advertising Age*, a trade magazine, the studio was asking \$20,000 (£11,900) to "place" a product in the film, and a full \$60,000 for an actor to actually use it.

The result of such "placing", in the words of Professor Mark Crispin Miller, head of the media studies programme at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, and author of a recent article in *Atlantic Monthly* magazine which ignited the controversy, is to make going to the cinema "about as memorable as going to the airport".

In the early days of cinema, it was common for films to feature products. That changed with the advent of television, when most national advertising shifted to the small screen. As television viewers became more adept at flicking through the channels to avoid advertisements, however, advertisers turned once again to the cinema, where the customers provide a captive audience.

Product placement became so com-



Dream machine: the James Bond Aston Martin was not "placed", but it helped start a fashion

tion in the 1980s that an industry grew up sustaining dozens of companies brokering deals between advertisers and studios.

The advertising industry magazine *Adweek* recently analysed Universal Pictures' *Back to the Future II*, a continuation of the adventures of a teenage time-traveller. It concluded: "The heavy-handedness of the product-plugging dominates the first half of the movie."

The first 10 minutes go like this: the Toyota nameplate on a lorry is prominently displayed, an empty Miller beer is used to fuel the hero's time machine, one of the actors opens a bag advertising Nike training

shoes, an AT&T telephone box is seen in the background, Michael J. Fox, the star of the film, straps on a pair of 21st century Nikes, another character advises him to go to the local bar and order a Pepsi. Fox reads a 2015 copy of the newspaper *USA Today* – with the same layout as the present-day version – and Fox stares in awe at a futuristic Texaco petrol station with a can of Havoline oil prominently displayed.

Adweek said that if the trend continues, "there won't be any movies as we know them, just prolonged ads."

Almost no important picture is untouched. One of this year's big successes, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Tur-*

ties, for instance, features a scene in which the heroes not only eat Domino's pizza, but also get a discount when the pizza arrives late – standard Domino policy. The company reportedly paid a five-figure sum to have the plug included.

But all product placement records are expected to fall in Paramount's forthcoming *Days of Thunder*, an action-packed film about racing cars. Billed as a "sequel" to *Top Gun* – the film about US Navy flyers which boosted recruitment when it opened – *Days of Thunder* stars Tom Cruise. But, more importantly, he drives a Chevrolet Lumina tattooed with sponsors' logos.

The Guardian has been summoned before the Privileges Committee to explain why its premature disclosure of a memorandum was not a contempt of the House. It will be questioned by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Leader of the Commons, and by Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General. *The Independent* has been called in to explain itself to the Home Affairs Committee. And there are corridor mutterings by Committee chairmen and MPs of dire actions to be taken if all this leaking doesn't stop.

Sooner or later, if the affair runs true to form, we will see an attempt to make an example of one of the reporters of the leaks. The Privileges Committee will pronounce, the Commons will be asked to confirm the sentence. And, if precedent holds, MPs will accept what a lot of nonsense it is and refuse to sanction punishment.

There is a yawning gap between the theory and practice of the laws of parliamentary privilege and contempt. They are antiquated – it was only in 1971 that the Commons formally removed the law prohibiting reports of its debates – and they are applied only sporadically.

The Privileges Committee confirmed in 1984-85 that leaks go on all the time: "The clear rules of the House have frequently been broken," it said. But only six cases have

A new row is brewing between MPs and the Press

Parliament is about to mount its high horse once again. Because they are no good at disciplining themselves. MPs are preparing once more to punish journalists for doing their job. A series of leaks from select committees, the all-party, department-related groups which since 1979 have done valuable work in investigating policy and revealing the government decision-making process, have upset some of their chairmen and members.

The Times printed the leaked report of the Social Services Committee revealing errors in Government statistics, and invalidating claims about how much the Government had helped the poor. *The Independent* carried details about police records in a leaked report from the Home Affairs Committee on the Crown Prosecution Service. *The Guardian* had details from a leaked Trade and Industry Committee report on the sale of Rover to British Aerospace.

Chesham and Amersham said in the Commons debate on *The Times* case: "The idea that MPs, once on a select committee, should be pampered and protected from publicity, and that the protection should be reinforced by penal sanctions against the Press, is quite absurd."

News, as William Randolph Hearst said, is something that someone does not want published. The sooner it is published, the newsworthy it is – and political journalism is highly competitive.

The truth is that newspapers cannot print leaks from select committees if MPs don't provide them. If Committees wish to stop leaks they have to discipline their MPs. And if they cannot do that there is no call in a free society for them to seek to discipline the media.

In their hearts, MPs know this: that is why they rarely, if ever, vote for the punishment of a journalist when the lumbering absurdity of the privilege laws is brought into play.

What quality of justice would Parliament dispense if a journalist was punished and the invariably anonymous leaker was not? For, as the Privileges Committee itself has reported: "It is clear from the evidence and from the nature of many of the leaks that the majority of them are the deliberate work of members of committees acting for political and personal motives."

MPs complain that the work of committees is damaged by the breakdown in trust consequent on premature disclosure. That claim is exaggerated, if not erroneous. These are grown men living in the public arena.

What they forget is that journalists live by disclosure. If they were to offer a special deal to select committees alone, reporting only what they wanted reported, when they wanted it reported, then the public would rightly be suspicious of the journalists' impartiality in reporting the rest of what goes on in Parliament.

They have a job to do: so do journalists. The only case, surely, for sanctions to be applied to the reporting of politics is where it may endanger national security.

Robin Oakley

The author is Political Editor of The Times.

PRODUCT PLACEMENT THE BRITISH WAY

COMPARED with America, product placement is only a cottage industry in this country, and limited to films. Despite the recent relaxation of some of its rules governing programme sponsorship, the Independent Broadcasting Authority says product placement is "not allowed under any circumstances", and is unlikely to change, even when the IBA is replaced by the "light-touch" Independent Television Commission. The BBC also bans anything that carries even a whiff of plugging.

But the IBA acknowledges that the days when labels were scraped off bottles in bar scenes and cornflakes were tipped out of plain boxes at sitcom breakfast tables are gone. And, although most ITV companies write a clause into their staff contracts that forbids plug-

Lisa O'Kelly



Michael J. Fox and Pepsi bottle

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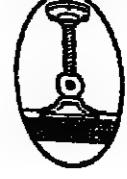
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Continued on page 70

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PETER MURPHY: Ex-Bauhaus singer and fine-boned star of the early Eighties Maxwell tour commercial.

Tomorrow: Town & Country Club, 8-17 Highgate Road, London NW5 (071-284 0303), 7.30pm, £7.

WIRE/POWER OF DREAMS: Back in the myst realms of '77, Wire were the most arty of the punk bands which frequented Covent Garden's Roxby club. Since then they've switched from EMI to the rather more credible Mute (Inspiral Carpets, Nick Cave and others) while Power of Dreams purvey modern spiky pop à la The Wedding Present.

Tomorrow: Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, Clerk Street (031-688 2019), 8pm, £5.50. Fr: Manchester University, Oxford Road (061-275 2300), 8pm, £5.50. Mon: Hibernal Club, Fulham Broadway, London SW6 (071-385 0130), 8pm, £5.

BLUES BROTHERS BAND: Serious musicians updating their live good-time sounds. The stellar cast includes Steve Cropper and Donald 'Duck' Dunn of Booker T. and the MGs, and fellow Stax legend Eddie Floyd. Monday's opening act is a swishy Pink Floyd sideman, Snowy White. Tuesday's, the Paul Lamb Blues Band.

Mon, Tues: Town & Country Club, 8-17 Highgate Road, London NW5 (071-284 0303), 7.30pm, £13.50.

GYSTER BAND: In the same Celtic vein as The Pogues and Black Velvet Band.

Fr: The Venue, 2a Clifton Rise, London SE14 (081-892 4077), 8pm, £2.50.

TOP 10 UK SINGLES

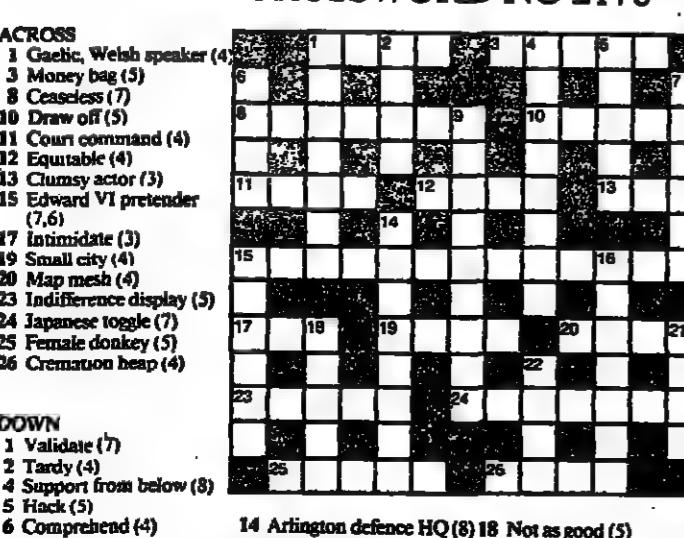
1 (1) Killer	Adamek, MCA
2 (2) Better the Devil You Know	Kyle Minogue, PWL
3 (2) Dirty Money	Adventures of Stevie V, Mercury
4 (3) Cover Girl	New Kids on the Block, J55
5 (3) Opposites Attract	Paula Abdul with the Wild P, Stern
6 (4) Vouge	Madonna, Jive
7 (4) Hold On	Alannah Myles, Atlantic East/West
8 (7) Black Velvet	Alannah Myles, Atlantic East/West
9 (6) A Dream's a Dream	Soul II Soul, 10 Records
10 (18) Won't Talk About It	Beats International, Go!

TOP 10 UK ALBUMS

1 (1) Only Yesterday	Carpenters, A&M
2 (2) But Seriously	Phil Collins, Virgin
3 (5) Labour of Love II	UB40, Dap International
4 (3) Forever Your Girl	Paula Abdul and Stern
5 (7) Vivaldi: Four Seasons	Kennedy/ECO, EMI
6 (4) Alannah Myles	Alannah Myles, Atlantic East/West
7 (5) A Pocketful of Dreams	Alannah Myles, Atlantic East/West
8 (6) Behind the Mask	Big Fun, Jive
9 (12) Hangin' Tough	Fleetwood Mac, Warner Bros
10 (10) Life	New Kids on the Block, CBS

Compiled by Galtup for Music Week/BBC/BPI

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2178



SOLUTION TO NO 2177
ACROSS 1 Wilfred Owen 9 Origami 10 Largo 11 Any 13 Tame 16 Chin 17 Gyrate 18 Also 26 Stub 21 Gauch 22 Avid 23 Want 25 Caf 28 Urns 29 Leucine 30 Leucine 32 Corpse 33 Dab 34 Cremation heap (4)
DOWN 1 Validate (7) 2 Tardy (4) 4 Support from below (8) 5 Hack (5) 6 Comprehend (4) 7 Nail polish (6) 9 Compete hard (4,2,3) 14 Arlington defence HQ (8) 18 Not as good (5) 15 Swarming pest (6) 21 Single combat (4) 16 Sustain (7) 22 Sojourn (4)

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

THE KIROV BALLET

7 July

GLYNDWYNNSIDE FESTIVAL

OPERA with The London Philharmonic Orchestra, 23 May

May 21, Wed 23 and Fri 25 May

GOLD OPIE: Their 24 and 26th of May 3.30 Afternoon, a new reworking of the 1926 classic at £24 and £20, available for some performances of *Madame Butterfly*. Return tickets £41.111111

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071-527 27816

071-570 4444 5 CC 065 20200

THEATRE

THEATRE OF COMEDY Scott

London 071-570 4444 5 CC 065 20200

RUN FOR YOUR WIFE London 071-570 4444 5 CC 065 20200

STYLISH EXPRESS Music by

NOEL & GERTIE Words and music by

ANNEKE VAN GELDER London 071-570 4444 5 CC 065 20200

SHIRLEY VALENTINE Directed by Trevor Nunn

CHARLES FESTIVAL Theatr

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ANNEKE VAN GELDER London 071-570 4444 5 CC 065 20200

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TELEVISION & RADIO

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Nicholas Witchell and Laura Mayer 8.55 Regional news and weather
9.00 News and weather followed by Open Air. Viewers comment on yesterday's television programmes
9.20 Gloria Live. Gloria Hunniford and her guests discuss matters of the moment
10.00 News and weather followed by Matchpoint. The general knowledge quiz followed by Angela Rippon (r)
10.25 Children's BBC introduced by Simon Parfitt begins with Playdays (r) 10.50 Barney (r)
10.55 Five to Eleven. John Craven considers the rights and plights of children the world over
11.00 News and weather followed by Open Air. Eamonn Holmes and Jayne Irving invite your views on cable and satellite television; and a look at the villages of Waddington in Lancashire as they make their own television programmes
12.00 News and weather followed by Daytime Live presented by Alan Titchmarsh and Judi Spiers. Includes Pub Lenni on Indian and Far Eastern cooking 12.55 Regional news and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) 1.50 Matchpoint. Angela Rippon umpires another game, set and match, in the general knowledge quiz 2.15 Knots Landing
3.05 Gardeners' Direct Line presented by John Thrift. Viewers with gardening problems should ring Leeds (0522) 446222 between 9.00am and 1.00pm. Providing the solutions are Peter Seabrook and Geoffrey Smith 3.35 The Pink Panther Show (r)
3.50 Caterpillar Trail. Nicola Davies follows the course of the River Exe

BBC 2

6.45 Open University: Pine Point — A Lead Zinc Deposit 7.10 Rome under the Popes: Church and Empire. Ends at 7.35
8.00 News 8.15 Westminster presented by Peter Mayne
9.00 The Historian. Bryan McVerney investigates the truth behind Sir Thomas Tresham. Was he an eccentric Elizabethan gentleman or a dangerous Catholic traitor? (r)
9.05 Daytime on Two: It teaches 9.35 Emergency first aid 9.45 A-level German 10.05 For the very young 10.20 The growth of industry in South Wales 10.40 The use of computers in a supermarket and a box office 11.00 Learning to read 11.15 Children discuss role-playing stories 11.35 Assessing a class 7-year-olds 12.10 A-level biology 12.30 The meaning of profit sharing 12.55 Effective communications for adults 1.20 Pie in the Sky. Science fiction for the under-16s 1.40 Behind the scenes of Spring Image
2.00 News and weather followed by Storytime
2.15 Country File. Rupert Seger contrasts two very different part-time farmers. One is a city professional buying a rural lifestyle and the other a farmer who has been forced to take work as a forester to supplement his income (r) 2.40 Made by Man. A look at the craft of a carwright (r)

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW
10.00 News 5.00 Breakfast News 6.00 Seven 6.45 5.00 Seven 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 5.30 News 9.00 Mark Godden 7.00 Singled Out 8.00 John Peel 10.45 Nicky Campbell 12.00-2.00am (See Home)

RADIO 2
FM Stereo
8.00am Seven Millions 5.30 David Attenborough 7.30 Devra Jackson 5.30 Judi Chalmers 11.00 Parter Caldwells 12.00-1.00am Seven 2.05 Gary Hartnell 4.00-5.00 Seven 5.00-6.00 7.00 Julian Assange. John Johnson is joined by Alan Cavanagh 7.30 Farport Convention in Concert 8.00 Folk on 2.00 The Original Emperors 9.20 Latin Music Show 10.20 Big Band 11.00 Seven 12.00 The Spinners and Friends 1.00-4.00 Nostalgia
MW as above except 8.45-7.00pm Sport and Cultural Results 8.00-9.00 Football Special: Scotland v Egypt: Republic of Ireland v France

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. Add an hour for BST.
5.00am Seven 5.00 News 5.00 24 Hours 5.30 London News 6.00 Newsbeat 6.30 Mandarin 7.00 World News 7.24 News 8.00 News 8.30 News and Weather 9.00 24 Hours 9.30 News 10.00 News 11.00 World News 11.30 News 12.00 News 12.30 News 1.00 News 1.30 News 2.00 News 2.30 News 3.00 News 3.30 News 4.00 News 4.30 News 5.00 News 5.30 News 6.00 News 6.30 News 7.00 News 7.30 News 8.00 News 8.30 News 9.00 Words of Faith 8.30 Business Matters 8.50 Just a Minute 9.00 World News 9.00 Review of the Week 9.15 News 9.30 News 9.45 A Voice of Our Own 10.00 Documentary 10.30 BBC Magazine 11.00 World News 11.09 News About Britain 11.15 Country Style 11.30 Music 12.00-1.00am Seven 1.00-2.00am in the Duration 12.25 The Farming World 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News 1.05 24 Hours, News Summary and Financial News 1.30 Deserves 1.30 2.00 World News 2.00 The Weather 2.20 The Weather Leopard 2.45 Business Matters 3.00 Newsbeat 3.15 BBC English 3.30 Heute Aktuell 4.00 World News 4.09 News About Britain 4.15 BBC 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Global warming to cost 'trillions'

From Michael McCarthy
Environment Correspondent
Bergen

COPING with global climatic change could cost the world trillions of dollars, senior American officials said yesterday at the Bergen conference in Norway on sustainable developments. The sums involved could exceed the gross national product of the United States.

US calculations of the astronomical bill to combat the so-called "Greenhouse effect" emerged as the real reason for American reluctance to join 33 other nations of the industrialised world in an agreement on overseas aid for the environment.

The officials made it clear that the US believed it was far ahead of the rest of the world in costing, on a global scale, the measures necessary to reduce emissions of the principal greenhouse gasses and provide flood defences against the expected rise in sea levels.

The rift at Bergen may pose a real threat to next month's London conference on strengthening measures to protect the ozone layer, according to a number of European environment ministers.

Overseas aid is a key element in the Montreal Protocol governing the phasing out of ozone-damaging chlorofluorocarbons. The American refusal at Bergen to accept the principle that aid for developing countries to purchase expensive substitutes for the gases should involve "new and additional" funds may lead, it is feared, to countries like India and China refusing to sign the protocol.

Yesterday, however, the Americans disclosed that they feared being drawn into an "open-ended commitment" for virtually infinite sums of aid money to cope with global warming if they conceded the principle that environmental overseas aid should be in a separate category from other aid programmes.

Mr Timothy Atkinson, Assistant Administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency and a senior member of the delegation, said the anticipated costs were "as big as you can get": "We are talking about costs in excess of the gross national product of the United States." He cited 15 cost scenarios for stabilising climate change on a global scale assembled by President Bush's Council of Economic Advisors.

Most of the money involved would be for energy efficiency measures and investment in public transport systems to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide from coal-fired power stations and motor vehicles.

Leading article, page 13



From left, Russian models Barbara Kopitko, aged 21, Galina Baisheva, 29, and Tatjana Nesvetaylova, 21, at the USSR Embassy in London yesterday, wearing designs from a knitwear collection inspired by Leningrad's architecture and the ballets of Diaghilev.

Loyalists clash with Latvian supporters

From Anatol Lieven, Riga

HUNDREDS of Soviet loyalist protesters, mostly from the armed forces, clashed with supporters of Latvian independence and Soviet riot police outside the Latvian parliament yesterday. Another major demonstration against independence took place outside the Estonian parliament in Tallin.

About 2,000 people were reported to have tried to storm the Estonian parliament building but were driven away by crowds who rallied to a radio appeal for help, the republic's Foreign Minister said. "After the broadcast, some 15,000 people rushed here and repelled the mob without use of force," Mr Lennart Meri said. There were no casualties.

All over Latvia, non-Latvian workers held meetings to denounce the parliament's declaration of legal independence and to support President Gorbachov's decree that it and the Estonian declaration are illegal. Soviet loyalists in Estonia are also threatening strikes if their demands are not met. Actual fighting be-

tween the two sides in Riga was avoided, though a few punches were thrown and placards torn up. There did not seem to be a serious attempt to storm the building, which would presumably have involved better trained and more ruthless forces than the cret-cult youths in the crowd, many of whom seemed to be enjoying the chance of a little rowdiness at the behest of their officers.

However, the intense pushing of the crowds on both sides looked for a few minutes as if it might produce a dangerous crush, as those caught in the middle fought for breath.

When demonstrators tried to break through the lines of Latvian Popular Front guards and Soviet police blocking entry into the forecourt of the parliament, a small group of riot police in flak jackets and black berets made a baton charge, hitting both Latvians and Russians. The ordinary police made no effort to separate the Latvian and Soviet demonstrators. They also did not take part in the Soviet demonstration them-

selves, as some had threatened. Before the demonstrations at the parliament dispersed due to heavy rain, a group of Soviet officers, and another from the League of Work Collectives, presented letters to Latvians. President Gorbunovs calling on parliament to revoke its declaration of independence, and threatening to take action to protect Soviet interests.

Mr Gorbunovs told parliament that yesterday was the first time in three years of demonstrations that the "black berets" were used and people were beaten. "We shouldn't pretend that nothing has happened," he said.

The strikes called by the "interfront" movement and the League of Work Collectives across Latvia yesterday generally failed to materialise in the full sense of the word. They claimed that about 100,000 people were on strike, but this could only be the case if all those who stopped work briefly to attend meetings were included. Many plants held staff meetings which lasted less than 30 minutes.

Noting that Cardinal O'Fiaich was "totally opposed to

all use of violence purporting to advance nationalist aims", Dr Daly appealed to Mr Adams and his followers: "May those committed to violence listen at last in death to this plea (for peace) from the heart of that great Irishman who was Cardinal Tomás O'Fiaich."

After the service, which was also attended by Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, and almost his entire Cabinet who came by helicopter, Mr Adams joined cardinals, archbishops, scores of bishops and 400 priests at the graveside. He mingled briefly before slipping away.

The Queen was represented by the Earl of Caledon, Lord Lieutenant of County Armagh. Mr Hugh Annesley, Chief Constable of the RUC, was present with representatives from the Army and the Northern Ireland civil service. The Pope was represented by his Nuncio in Dublin, who will play a key role in the appointment of Cardinal O'Fiaich's successor, Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, was also present.

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Mr King was given no indication of what Moscow had in mind for combat

Political sketch

Bedtime stories of tanks in the closet

"ONE thing that I have learnt," defence minister Alan Clark told us yesterday, "is never to advise anyone whom to go to bed with."

He was trying to calm an excited House, after accusations of MPs "in bed" with defence contractors. It was a pity Mrs Thatcher had not arrived. Mr Clark might have cheered her up.

The Prime Minister was feeling—and wearing—blue, yesterday. And her hair had changed. There was something girlish about the permanent wave: rather "Lady Di."

It brought out the schoolboy in Labour's Ron

Leighton, and replied that they were both right.

Unlike Mr Kinnock, the Liberal leader does not get a second bite at the Grantham cherry, and so was unable to ask *how* they could both be right. Only one possible reconciliation of the two occurs to your sketchwriter, and Mr Lamont has already used it. "It would not be right to change the forecast," he was reported on Monday as saying. "All kinds of things can happen..." I think this is a Chief Secretary's way of saying "something may turn up."

That was Mr Micawber's favourite argument; and it seems to underlie Labour's emerging policy-outline, too. Most unfairly, this column has already had some fun at the expense of Mr Kinnock and his plan to send Vietnamese refugees in Hong Kong to "Indonesia or the Philippines"—temporarily, until something turns up. Yesterday, an outline emerged of some similarly unspecific hopes for our arms industry, once we have stopped it from manufacturing arms.

During Defence Questions, Labour's Dawn Primarolo (Bristol S) berated Tories ("closet warmongers" as she called them) for their failure to consider "the principles or practice of arms-conversion."

What was this? Ms Primarolo did not elaborate. Timothy Kirkhope (C, Leeds NE) suggested that it was "making dishwashers and washing machines out of tanks." Hm. The *Hoover Challenger*, or *Vickers Twister*... But would these be battlefield or strategic washing machines? Perhaps Mr Kinnock might consult the Iraqis, who have a genius for plumbing? Not that Mr Kinnock lacks genius on his own benches...

Mr Tony Worthington (Lab, Clydesdale & Milngavie): "Mr Speaker, 1990 started in January." Conservative members: "Hooley!"

Mr Worthington: "This is now May..." Conservative members: "Hooley!"

The PM managed a smile.

Matthew Parris

Soviet tanks demand

Continued from page 1

for the Soviet Union at the CFE talks. Under the so-called "sufficiency rule", it had already been agreed that within the 20,000 tank ceiling for each side, no country should have more than 12,000.

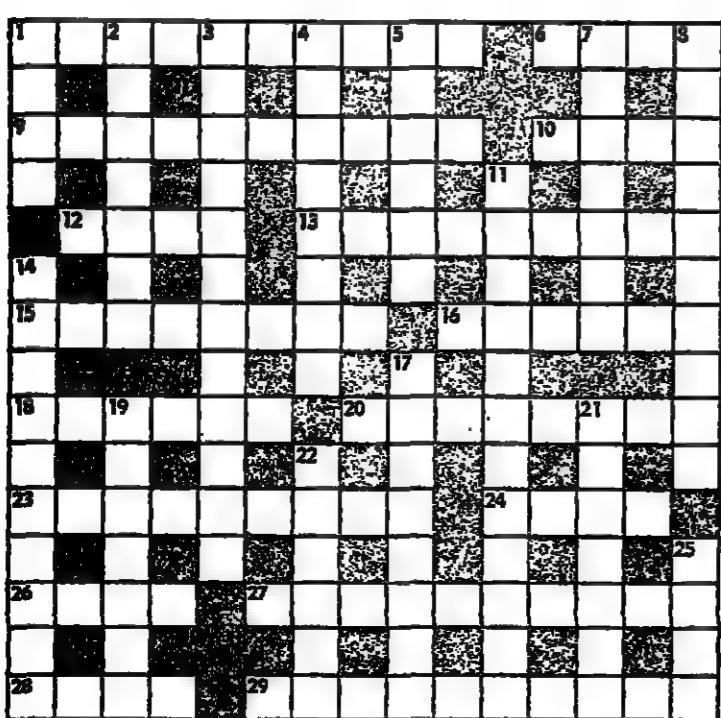
Mr King was given no

indication of what Moscow had in mind for combat

aircraft. The Soviet Union has insisted, among other things, that land-based naval aircraft should be excluded. This has been rejected by the West because it would mean that aircraft, such as the Soviet Backfire bomber, would be left out of the planned cuts.

Gorbachov fight, page 10

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,295



ACROSS
1 Successful author rebels—"Let's... our riot!" (4,6).
6 Me and mum work together (4).
9 Pacific islands in a frenzy, in short (3).
10 "Look close", they say (4).
12 It's only fair... (4).
13 ...after interrupting in the matter of double-dealing (9).
15 You need, by the sound of it, little obfuscation to be a bad lawyer (8).
16 City areas have hospital within reach (6).
18 Run through—I'm faint (6).
20 Words are not about to stick (8).
23 Be cautious, man, about greeting a machine... (4,4).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,294

WHOPPERS **SUBORN**
A V O G E D O T U N I
T R E S P A S S I E R S E P T
E R E T T A H A H O
R O C K Y M O U N T A I N S
E R E B R A D T
D O O R D I E A G N O M E N
W M E E T O D
B E D S O C K S M A T T E R
X A I L I X V O D O
P A T E D E P I C E
R S E V V N C C I
P E R U N E N G L A N D
S M C N E E D O U
E S C A P E R E T R I E V E

Concise crossword, page 20

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 43 per cent of the competitors at the 1990 Leeds regional final of The Times Collins Dictionary Crossword Championship.

WEATHER

brighter over England and Wales, but cloudy again over southern England later, with patchy rain in the south-west. Scattered showers will develop in northern England, southern Scotland and Northern Ireland. Central and northern Scotland will stay mostly cloudy with outbreaks of rain. Outlook: becoming mostly dry with bright or sunny spells.

ABROAD

MONDAY: (i) thunder; (d) drizzle; (tw) log; (s) sun;

(st) snow; (f) fair; (c) cloud; (r) rain

C **F** **P** **C** **F**

Almaty 26 78 8 51 61 62 sunny

Alkmaar 26 78 8 51 62 sunny

Alexandria 25 77 8 51 62 sunny

Algiers 25 77 8 51 62 sunny

Amman 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Almaty 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Amman 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Antananarivo 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Antwerp 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Asuncion 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Athens 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Auckland 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Austria 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Azerbaijan 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Baku 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Bahrain 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Bangkok 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Banjul 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Bangui 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Banja Luka 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Banjul 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

Bangui 24 78 8 51 62 sunny

BUSINESS

WEDNESDAY MAY 16 1990

SECTION 2

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar 1.6780 (-0.0030)

W German mark 2.7668 (-0.0001)

Exchange index 87.5 (same)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share

1731.6 (-1.9)

FT-SE 100

2212.2 (-2.3)

USM (Dastream)

130.02 (-0.19)

Market report, page 29

Hill Samuel
in launch
of new fund

HILL Samuel and three leading European fund managers with a total of \$64 billion under management are to launch an umbrella fund to invest in British, French, German and Belgian equity markets, using quantitative techniques.

The fund will take the form of an open-ended investment company whose shares will be quoted in Luxembourg.

Hill Samuel's partners in the venture will be CCF in France, BHF in Germany and Kredietbank in Belgium.

European Multi-Index Fund, as it is to be known, will charge management fees of 1% per cent annually.

Border warning

Border Television has forecast that its results for the year to April 30 are likely to be below those of the previous year. It confirmed that the dividend would be maintained, but failed to halt a 4% slide in the share price to 37p.

STOCK MARKETS

New York Dow Jones 2224.07 (+2.54)

Tokyo Nikkei Average 31987.04 (-45.61)

Hong Kong Hang Seng 2685.08 (-11.36)

Amsterdam CBS Tendency 1173.0 (-0.1)

London FTSE 100 1851.25 (-0.08)

Brussels General 5186.20 (-44.38)

Paris CAC 552.17 (-2.07)

Zurich Ska Gen 816.7 (-4.1)

London FT-A All-Shares 1088.00 (-1.20)

FT-SE 30 1152.00 (-0.52)

FT Food Interest 217.5 (-8.4)

FT Govt Secs 77.05 (+0.10)

Recent issues Closing prices Page 24 Page 28

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES Hawker Siddeley 630p (+13p)

Allied Lyons 4525p (+15p)

Bentalls 163p (+5p)

Gibbs & Dandy 150p (+10p)

Harrison Admin 705p (+10p)

Pochins 100p (+10p)

Carter Comm 530p (+100)

Davies & Newman 425p (+200)

Blenheim Exhib 880p (+250)

Yale & Voter 2651p (+12p)

FALLS Glex 8124p (-10p)

Sedgwick 250p (-15p)

Ultramar 341p (-5p)

Hunters 1475p (-10p)

Bass & Co Holdings 725p (-10p)

Barr & W A' 355p (-10p)

Central TV 6574p (-15p)

Herrburger Brooks 175p (-20p)

Mofins 285p (-10p)

Rank Organisation 788p (-13p)

Closing prices 2390p

Bentalls Volume 4024m

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%

3-month interbank 15% - 15.1%

3-month eligible bills: 14% - 14.1%

US Prime Rate 10%

Federal Funds 8% - 8.5%

3-month Treasury Bills 7.65 - 7.83%

30-year bonds 10.1% - 10.17%

CURRENCIES

London: New York: £ 1.6775

£ DM 2.7668 \$ DM 1.5468

£ Swf 2.3522 \$ Swf 1.5985

£ Ffr 2.2632 \$ Ffr 1.5135

£ Index 87.5 \$ Index 65.9

ECU 10.739814 SDR 0.787920

£ ECU 13.516914 SDR 1.269164

GOLD

London Fixing: AM 5367.40 pm 5367.75

close 5367.50 - 5368.00 (2219.25 - 219.25)

New York: Comex S370.10 - 370.80*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jun 1) \$ 18.10 bbl (\$17.85)

* Danesett Brent trading price

TOURIST RATES

Bank: Bank: Bank: Bank:

TEMPUS

Cash-happy Hanson in good shape

HANSON is cashed up and the world is its oyster.

Interim pre-tax profits to end-March at £570 million (£447 million) were at the top end of estimates, but still surprisingly good considering the dominant role that consumer and industrial interests play in Hanson's life.

Hanson was helped by a £50 million interest saving kicker, after the recent conversion of loan stock, and by a first full six-month contribution from the ConsGold takeover.

The net cash position at March 31 was £922 million, the gross cash position was £6.37 billion, and the ability to borrow is many billions more.

Net cash balances will have weakened since March 31 after the first nibble at the US coal group Peabody, with another \$726 million earmarked to be spent in its own operations and those of its own rival further up-market, Marks & Spencer.

Lord Sainsbury, the chairman, was hardly avoiding such comparisons as he announced higher-than-expected pre-tax profits of £451.4 million against £375.1 million for the year to March 17, including property gains that increased from £22.8 million to £30.7 million.

Sainsbury's own US footprint and its only significant overseas expansion, Shaw's, raised sales by 15 per cent to \$1.69 billion and operating profits by 36 per cent to \$44.6 million. The retailer is sticking to its last in this country and is not being tempted by grandiose plans of European conquest.

The returns on that UK property were again on display.

A first-half dip to 15.4 per cent in pre-tax profits as the company concentrated on sales growth was followed by a 24.3 per cent rise in the second half, as the benefits of consolidation coincided with a buoyant market for food retailers.

Like-for-like volume growth across the UK food operations was non-existent, but in the 25,000 sq ft supermarkets on which it is now concentrating, growth was running at 7 per cent after allowing for inflation.

The Savacante operation, wholly-owned over the entire 12 months, saw operating profits up by 3.6 per cent to £17.3 million after two expensive store openings during the financial year. Homebase confirmed the trend in the DIY sector with a 26 per cent rise to 10.9 million.

Lord Hanson implies that he will not get wet as the economic rains fall on the construction and building industries, since Hanson management has already adapted and London Brick's production levels have been adjusted.

Meanwhile, at Imperial Tobacco's factories, certain streamlining needed to meet competition will mean some redundancies, and in the US, the consumer environment is lacklustre.

The thrust of both the UK and the US divisions of Hanson is that the empire is still fit

and in good shape, and that acquisitions and deals are in the pipeline.

Meanwhile, forecasts of £1.3 billion (£1.06 billion) year-end profits still stand, and on a prospective rating of 10.9, backed by a potential yield of 6 per cent, the shares are up with events. They should, however, run again as the next takeover game plan is revealed – and that may not be long.

J Sainsbury

J SAINSBURY has for years wearied of the City's inevitable comparisons with Tesco, seen as coming up fast on the inside to challenge its position as grocer to the middle market. But Sainsbury now has some comparisons to make of its own, between its US operations and those of its own rival further up-market, Marks & Spencer.

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Global view: Lord Hanson is still on the lookout for deals and acquisitions

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EC curb on Lufthansa

From Peter Guitford, Brussels

THE European Commission has prevented Lufthansa, the West German airline, from tightening its monopoly grip on Air Europe, the private British carrier which competes with it on flights from London to Germany.

The commission stated that Lufthansa had agreed after considerable pressure from Sir Leon Brittan, the EC Commis-

sioner for Competition, to respect Air Europe's "interlining" rights.

These enable airlines to put passengers on each other's aircraft for part of a journey, increasing the range of flights on offer and giving greater flexibility, particularly to business travellers wishing to change, postpone or cancel their journeys.

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily chg's (\$)	Yearly chg's (\$)	Daily chg's (%)	Yearly chg's (%)	Daily chg's (US\$)	Yearly chg's (%)
The World	736.4	0.1	-12.7	0.1	-7.9	0.4	-8.7
(free)	140.6	0.1	-12.8	0.0	-8.0	0.4	-8.8
EAFFE	129.9	0.4	-16.8	-0.1	-12.0	0.7	-12.7
(free)	133.4	0.4	-16.8	-0.2	-12.3	0.7	-13.0
Europe	737.5	-0.4	-3.1	-0.2	-3.1	0.0	1.4
(free)	158.5	-0.4	-3.0	-0.5	-3.3	0.0	1.4
Nth America	511.5	-0.5	-4.9	-0.1	-0.4	-0.2	-0.6
Nordic	1545.4	-0.8	-7.7	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	3.8
(free)	244.0	-0.9	-3.7	-0.8	-4.5	-0.6	8.5
Pacific	3006.5	-0.9	-24.2	-0.1	-17.2	1.2	-20.7
Far East	4265.5	1.0	-24.6	0.0	-17.6	1.3	-21.1
Australia	297.9	-0.5	-14.2	-0.5	-7.5	-0.2	-10.3
Austria	1886.0	-0.8	-26.9	-0.3	-23.1	-0.2	-32.7
Belgium	916.5	0.4	-5.9	0.9	-6.8	0.8	-7.7
Canada	507.5	-0.6	-15.5	0.2	-8.8	-0.2	-11.6
Denmark	1302.2	-0.5	-1.1	0.0	-1.3	-0.1	3.4
Finland	56.7	0.8	-16.2	0.8	-15.7	1.1	-12.3
(free)	142.1	2.0	-4.7	2.1	-4.2	2.3	-0.3
France	823.9	-1.0	-1.9	0.8	-2.2	-0.7	8.5
Germany	940.8	-0.7	2.5	-0.4	-4.2	-0.3	-1.9
Hong Kong	2243.9	-1.1	1.2	-0.7	5.6	-0.7	5.8
Italy	388.0	0.8	0.7	1.1	0.4	1.1	5.2
Japan	4605.0	1.0	-25.3	0.0	-18.2	1.4	-21.9
Netherlands	887.1	-0.2	-5.2	0.1	-5.0	0.1	-1.9
New Zealand	85.8	0.7	-16.7	0.6	-9.8	1.0	-12.9
Norway	1587.4	-1.8	18.3	-1.8	19.8	-1.5	23.7
(free)	276.8	-1.6	18.5	-1.4	20.1	-1.3	23.9
Sing/Malay	193.4	-0.6	-3.0	-0.3	-3.3	0.3	-1.4
Spain	223.0	0.0	-5.8	0.0	-7.3	0.3	-1.5
Sweden	1718.6	-0.6	-2.0	-0.3	-0.7	-0.2	2.5
(free)	247.8	-1.2	2.4	-1.0	3.7	-0.5	7.0
Switzerland	930.4	-0.5	1.8	-0.7	-3.8	-0.5	6.4
(free)	141.3	-0.8	1.2	-0.7	-4.3	-0.5	5.8
UK	655.2	-0.2	-8.1	-0.2	-8.1	-0.2	-5.0
USA	463.9	-0.5	-4.0	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.4

(*) Local currency. Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

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EAST SUSSEX
NATIONAL GOLF CLUB

Pentland pays \$10m for stake in Speedo US

By Melinda Wittstock

PENTLAND Group, the consumer products company, is diversifying into leisure and competition swimwear with the acquisition of a 48 per cent stake in Speedo US.

The move comes as McAlpine is facing up to tougher times in housebuilding, which was its best profit earner last year.

Mr Bobbie McAlpine has been chairman and chief executive of the group since 1985, having taken over the twin role from his father, Mr Jimmy McAlpine.

Mr Bobbie McAlpine, who is the third generation of the family at the head of the business, remains as executive chairman.

The directors and the McAlpine family hold about 30 per cent of the equity but another 6 per cent now belongs to Dumez, the big French construction group with which McAlpine struck a co-operation agreement at the beginning of this year.

Dumez has an option to take up to a 12 per cent stake.

Mr Odgers was at British Telecom, originally as a non-executive government-nominated director, but in 1986 moved in full-time as deputy chairman and chief financial officer. In October 1987 he became group managing director but when relations became strained between him and Mr Ian Vallance, the BT chairman, he resigned and left BT in March this year.

He has an extensive knowledge of the construction and civil engineering industry, having been at Tarmac between 1978 and 1986. He was initially group finance director there and then became group managing director, presiding

over a period of rapid growth for Tarmac.

McAlpine has been through several difficult years but says a number of loss-making public sector contracts have now been worked through. It is also down to three core businesses – contracting, housebuilding and minerals.

McAlpine has traditionally been a motorway builder, especially in the North. It claims to have constructed about a tenth of the nation's motorway network.

But the company says

McAlpine to bring in former Tarmac chief

By Derek Harris
Industrial Editor

NEW blood is being brought in by Alfred McAlpine, the construction group, with the tight family control being diluted as Mr Graeme Odgers comes in as chief executive from the beginning of next month.

The move comes as McAlpine is facing up to tougher times in housebuilding, which was its best profit earner last year.

Mr Bobbie McAlpine has been chairman and chief executive of the group since 1985, having taken over the twin role from his father, Mr Jimmy McAlpine.

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But the company says

housebuilding is so far still holding up, helped by the wide

Odgers: extensive knowledge of the construction industry

over a period of rapid growth for Tarmac.

LUI in jeopardy as insurers refuse to back rescue plan

By Neil Bennett

THE rescue package for London United Investments, the suspended insurance group, has been put in doubt by the refusal of Britain's leading composite insurers to contribute up to two-thirds of the £120 million needed.

Mr Stuart Tarrant, the finance director of Sedgwick Group, the broker which is leading the rescue attempt, said he was less than optimistic about chances for the plan's success. He said there was "still a long way to go" before it reached its target of £120 million.

Mr Tarrant said the rescue package was probably the last hope of saving LUI. Sedgwick

and other British and US brokers have offered to put up £40 million of the money, but have asked composites, such as Prudential and Sun Alliance, to supply the rest. The money is needed to prop up the reserves of six of LUI's subsidiaries, which have been hit by an increasing level of claims from old US liability policies.

The brokers are trying to convince the composites that many of LUI's US clients would be covered under the Policyholders' Protection Act if the group is declared bankrupt.

They would thus have their claims met by a levy on the

insurers once LUI's reserves were exhausted. The composites have so far refused to accept this argument. They are also unwilling to subscribe to a rescue in case claims frequency continues to increase and more money is needed. However, negotiations are continuing.

Last month, LUI said Tillinghast, its consulting actuary, had found a £75 million to £100 million shortfall in the six subsidiaries. Tillinghast will send its final report to the Department of Trade soon.

Mr David Rowland, Sedgwick's chairman, sent his company's shares sliding 14p to 251p yesterday when he

gave warning there were "no clear signs of any upturn" in the insurance industry.

His words were coupled with another flat set of figures from Britain's largest insurance broker. Pre-tax profits for the first three months were up 1.7 per cent to £42.5 million.

Earnings per share were unchanged at 6.4p, despite a 10 per cent rise in revenue to £196 million.

The group was hit by an unexpected £1.9 million write-off on two errors and omissions policies it had taken out in 1979 and 1983, which the insurers have been unable to pay. The group will pay a dividend at the half-year.

Sky TV's losses hit News Corp results

By Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

CONTINUING losses from Sky Television in the third quarter contributed to a 43 per cent fall in The News Corporation's pre-tax profits to Aus\$231 million (£110 million) in the nine months to end-March.

Group turnover of the Sydney-based international media group, of which Mr Rupert Murdoch is chief executive, rose by 14 per cent to Aus\$6.3 billion. Trading profit increased by 1.3 per cent to Aus\$930 million.

This included a 46 per cent rise to Aus\$541 million in the United States and Aus\$311 million (up 8 per cent) from Australia and the Pacific basin.

But trading profits from the UK interests, which include the Sky satellite broadcasting system for seven months as well as *The Times*, *Sunday Times*, *News of the World*, *Today* and *The Sun*, dropped from Aus\$239 million to Aus\$78 million.

Total losses from Sky Television totalled Aus\$179 million, implying that losses in the first three months of 1990 were at the same rate as the last four months of 1989.

Sky Television losses are now falling, the company said, with the accelerated installation of receiving dishes. There are now 1.4 million viewing households.

Net interest costs rose from Aus\$593 million to Aus\$697 million and the contribution from associates turned from a profit of Aus\$5.5 million to a loss of Aus\$28.6 million.

The company said that, had it not been for the investment in Sky and the effect of the pilots' dispute on Ansett, its airline associate, profits would have been higher than last year's record, despite higher advertising and worsening advertising conditions.

Net profit after tax and minority interests dropped by 53 per cent to Aus\$147 million and there were net extraordinary losses of Aus\$26 million for the nine months, against extraordinary profits of Aus\$155 million a year ago. Shares in News International, the UK subsidiary which pays the same dividend as The News Corporation, fell 4p to 274p.

COMMENT

BhS puts a decisive end to benign paternalism

The astonishing aspect of the announcement that BhS is cutting 900 management and support jobs from its retail business is that only three out of every five people employed in BhS stores are engaged in selling. Since the beginning of the year, BhS has been trying to find out not only what the other 40 per cent do, but whether they need to do it. The result is that 600 faces are going to disappear from the stores, but there will be just as many hands to serve the customers.

It does appear that many of the people being removed from the store network spent their time collecting and processing information — form-filling, in other words. Not only did this divert the time of those whose job it was to sell, but also it required another army of people at head office to read, store, process, pass on or memorize the information needlessly gathered. By taking 600 out of the stores, another 300 can be allowed to go at head office.

The bureaucracy infecting BhS appears to rival the set-up which is more normally, but probably now unfairly, associated with the Civil Service, but could well be the pattern elsewhere in the retail sector. The scandal is that, more than three years after the merger which created Storehouse, the situation remained uncorrected.

Woolworths was put through the same sort of wringer when it was acquired by Kingfisher, but other store groups, such as Marks and Spencer with its army of executives in Baker Street, will be watching with interest to see just how slim the centre can become before it snaps under the strain.

All calls from Olliff on hold

Just when we think we've seen it all, somebody thinks of a new trick to entertain the takeover circus. The latest twist to the long-running takeover soap starring Molins, the cigarette machinery maker, springs from the fertile minds at Olliff & Partners, a research-based stockbroking partnership which set up in the shadow of Big Bang and lived to tell the tale.

Olliff acts for Leucadia National Corporation, which has put a bid of 252p a share down on the table. Leucadia already holds 33 per cent of Molins, which it picked up from the previous bidder, Sir Ron Brierley's IEP Securities, and is keen to pick up the remainder. It has until close of business today to decide whether to increase the offer, and until yesterday morning a revised 275p offer looked almost a foregone conclusion.

Leucadia has decided, however, to force the pace. Instead of the expected take-it-or-leave-it increase, it says it will increase the bid only if it can manage to acquire more shares by noon today. How many more? At what price? Such decisions are not for the ears of the market, but at the "sole discretion" of the bidder. Last night Olliff was canvassing shareholders for their shares, offering, according to Molins, prices of up to 275p. If Leucadia decides it has bagged enough shares, obviously it will have to lift its bid to the highest price it paid. If not, all bets are off, the bid will fail, the share price will fall and Leucadia will presumably look for a buyer for its stake.

The decision of the Takeover Panel to allow the Olliff initiative is somewhat curious, for it does contrast with the crackdown on conditional acceptances. If such wheezes are to be allowed at all, both the price on offer and the level of acceptance required should be spelled out. Alternatively, once any shareholder is offered, even conditionally, a price higher than the current bid price, the offer should be thrown open to all. Otherwise the market is rigged and riddled with unintentional insiders. Shareholders can be assured by Olliff should refuse to take the call.

David Brewerton

Vaux set to buy more pubs

By Jeremy Andrews

THE chairman and managing director of Vaux Breweries, Mr Paul Nicholson, confirmed that the group planned to buy more public houses cast off by the big five brewers, having spent £11 million on the purchase of 55 public houses so far this year.

Mr Nicholson was commenting following publication of Vaux's figures for the 24 weeks to March 17, which showed pre-tax profits up 19 per cent at £14.1 million on sales 11 per cent ahead at £111 million. The interim dividend is raised to 2.98p.

Despite a two-point fall in the tax charge to 26 per cent due to Vaux's heavy capital spending, earnings per share, up 16 per cent at 8.16p, grew more slowly than profits because of the £36 million share placing in December.

The underlying growth in earnings was only 10 per cent as profits from associates had been flattered by a £719,000 gain from the sale of 77 Times, which had been jointly owned by all the independent television companies. Vaux has a 19 per cent stake in Tyne Tees Television.

The largest contribution to the results came from its Swallow Hotels subsidiary, where trading profits rose by 13 per cent to £6.14 million.

Metro Radio up 35%



Music to his ears: Metro's Neil Robinson contemplates a good year ahead

METRO Radio Group, the independent radio stations group based in Newcastle, tuned in to a 35.2 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £937,000 in the half year to end-March (Philip Pangalo writes).

The results benefited from an 18.5 per cent improvement in advertising revenue, with local advertising growing by

24.2 per cent. Turnover was ahead by 25.3 per cent to £3.87 million. Earnings per share rose by 28.2 per cent to 6.41p, while the interim dividend is raised to 1.5p (1.25p). The shares advanced by 11p to 147p.

Mr Neil Robinson, the managing director, said the second half has started well with April's advertising revenue more than 50 per cent higher than last year.

Interest receipts more than doubled to £212,000 and there was an extraordinary credit of £100,000, from the sale of the company's shareholding in Broadcast Marketing Services.

Recent figures showed that Metro Radio has a 47 per cent share of all radio listening in its transmission area.

The Guinness Trial

Board 'never authorized fees'

THE former company secretary of Guinness claimed the board had never authorized success fees in connection with the group's £2.7 billion takeover of Distillers, a court heard yesterday.

Mr John Chadwick, QC, prosecuting, asked Mr Alan Scrine if there had been "authorization of any payments of any success fees or indemnities in connection with the acquisition." Mr Scrine replied: "No sir."

Mr Scrine also confirmed that the board had never approved a payment of £2.2 million to Tom Ward, the Guinness director and American

lawyer, said to have played a key role in the bid.

Mr Scrine also told the court that unofficial meetings of Guinness directors after a government inquiry was launched into the takeover caused "acrimony and tension."

New non-executive directors of the company, appointed after the 1986 bid, were seen as being divisive by meeting outside the company.

Mr Richard Ferguson, QC, defending the former Guinness chief Ernest Saunders, asked if there was a body comprising the new non-executive directors appointed

after the takeover. Mr Scrine replied: "There was no special entity, no."

And he said in December 1986 and early January 1987 he did not know the new directors were holding meetings, or that they were tagged the "sack the chairman" committee.

It is alleged that on January 4 Mr Oliver Roux, the former Guinness finance director, wrote a letter to Guinness lawyers setting out improper transactions linked to the bid and implicating Mr Saunders.

And it is claimed Price Waterhouse, the company auditor, raised "areas of concern" with Mr Saunders in November, but he failed to explain them.

Mr Scrine agreed that if anyone had a worry about the running of the company the appropriate way to raise it was through the president or chairman, or, ultimately, by tabling it before the full board.

Mr Saunders, aged 54; Gerald Ronson, Heron Corporation chief, aged 50; Anthony Parnes, a stockbroker, aged 44; and Sir Jack Lyons, the financier, aged 74, variously deny 24 charges including theft, false accounting and Companies Act breaches.

The trial continues today.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Another fine mess . . .

THE Prince of Wales was given a whispered ticking-off after he autographed a £10 note during his four-day tour of Hungary last week — and he could now be liable to a fine of up to £25. The notes had been given to each of the workers in the Ganz-Hunser factory in Budapest, a subsidiary of Leeds-based engineer Telfos, in celebration of the Royal tour — so that they could go out that night and treat themselves, a spokesman says. But the works foreman, an entrepreneurial gentleman by the name of Berecz, had other ideas. He presented his to Prince Charles who, spontaneously, signed it as requested. "You're not supposed to do that," an aide then confided, but it was too late — the offending note had vanished back into a Hungarian pocket. Later attempts by Hunser chief executive Eddie Duke to buy it back, with the bidding going as high as £95, fell on falow ground. The well-informed Royal aide was clearly familiar with the Currency and Banknote Act 1928, which stipulates that, "if any person prints or stamps or by any like means impresses on any bank note any words, letters or figures he shall, in respect of each offence, be liable on summary conviction, to a penalty not exceeding £1." A bemused Bank of England source informs me that that penalty has since been increased to £25 but adds: "It is technically an offence, but we are unlikely to be pursuing the matter."

Oil clique

FEMALE colleagues of the men who dominate the oil industry are banding together to make themselves more powerful professionally. They are launching a women's club within the oil industry, the brainchild of Angela Hay, aged 32, an oil futures broker with the French firm Suedde and Caroline Lewis, aged 43, an oil consultant. "It's such a male industry but there are also some very good and powerful women, and we want to start networking," says Hay. "Successful women in the industry have to be that much better than the men, by definition, but they are also fairly isolated. It's very difficult for a woman to go along to the pub after work and strike up a chummy relationship with men. It's just not the same." Men were, she added, incredibly chauvinistic. "When one asks another what a certain man is like, you don't hear them say, 'He doesn't wear very nice ties'." The club's first meeting will be a

luncheon for 25 or so — including four Americans who want to launch a sister club in New York — at the fashionable Soho restaurant L'Escarbot, with subsequent meetings every two or three months. Men will be invited as guests or speakers. "They can be honorary girls," says Hay. And the male reaction thus far? "They think it's all a bit of a joke — they don't realize just how serious we are."

GRAFFITI outside a Cambridge college: "The man who boasts about how clever he is won't be if he is."

DESPITE the worsening economic climate — or perhaps because of it — Stephen Lewis, one-time director of economic research at Phillips & Drew, has had a 92 per cent renewal rate for *Fifth Column*, his weekly newsletter which examines the international bond and currency markets and, more recently, equities. A delighted Lewis, who still works as a consultant for P&D two or three days a week, and now has 70 subscribers prepared to pay £95 a year, attributes his success to "the quality of the product." He adds: "We published the first one in February last year, but the first four editions were free, so we've only just been able to assess the renewal rate." As for his expansion into equities, he explains: "A lot of subscribers want to be able to take a general strategic view and so I decided to break the habit of a life time." Equities were, he adds, comparatively easy. "It's like



Carol Leonard

"I am delighted to report a year of substantial progress for Allied-Lyons"

David Holdstock

(Extracts from the Chairman's Statement)

Pre-Tax Profit	Earnings per Share	Dividend per Share
1989/90 £565m	1988/89 £502m	1989/90 16.95p
Up 12.5%	Up 9.1%	Up 13.0%

52 weeks to 3 March 1990.

"These results reflect good performance across the whole group.

The acquisition of the Whitbread Spirits business increased both our brand strength and our international status. Similarly Dunkin' Donuts Inc brought into the group a world number one which complements our existing business and offers considerable potential both in the United States and worldwide.

Our well balanced spread of food, drink and hospitality businesses, our growing international status and our outstanding brand strength add up to a powerful and resilient group and we are confident of further progress."



Foreign TV predators ready to snap up franchise victors

By Melinda Witstock

ALL 16 ITV television contractors to emerge from the next franchise round in 1992 will be immediately vulnerable to hostile takeovers, according to City broadcasting analysts and industry sources.

This follows the Government's refusal to legislate a moratorium on takeovers for the new franchise-holders. It had been expected that a one- or two-year moratorium would be sought in the Broadcasting Bill.

If expected attempts to amend the Bill to allow for a moratorium fail during its second reading in the House of Lords next month, it is believed most ITV companies will end up foreign-owned or controlled just months after winning highly sought-after franchises.

Mr Richard Dunn, the managing director of Thames Television, said: "With no moratorium in place, there is a high probability that each and every successful Channel 3 applicant will be taken over by large European media companies." Non-EC investors are limited to stakes of up to 20 per cent, while EC companies can own 100 per cent.

"Instead of having to go through the rather arcane process of bidding for a franchise through the competitive tender, most potential bidders will now wait and buy the winners when they are at their



Dunn: vulnerable winners

most vulnerable, with little, if any, interference," he said.

More than 30 European media giants have made clear their plans to expand into British independent television. And they each have, in their own right, bigger market capitalization than the £2 billion capitalization of all ITV companies. City analysts expect a spate of bids, counters, mergers and agreed deals the week the outcome of the franchise tender is announced.

Mr Chris Akers, an analyst with Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers, said: "It is likely to be complete chaos. At 9am the winners will be announced, within minutes the share prices will be up 10 to 20 per cent and within hours the takeover battles will begin."

He added: "Within 18 months, the majority will be

in French, German, Spanish or Italian hands."

The only companies that will be prevented by the Independent Television Commission (ITC) — the regulatory body which replaces the IBA with the Bill's Royal Assent in July — from taking over a successful applicant will be those who tried to fail to win a franchise.

The ITC could not prevent a company that avoided the competitive tender from taking over a successful applicant, unless the bidder failed to convince the ITC that it could live up to the obligations agreed at the tender stage, such as the provision of local and regional programming.

Mr David Mellor, Home Office Minister responsible for broadcasting, has said the ITC would be left to establish its own rules and guidelines regarding mergers and takeovers.

Mr Dunn said: "How could the ITC decide whether or not a bidder would run a franchise better than the winner of that franchise tender is announced."

Mr John Sanderson, an analyst with County NatWest, said European players are still likely to consider taking strategic stakes on the cheap in what they perceive to be likely winners before the franchise round. But although the Europeans will no doubt play a large role in post-tender take-

overs, he said British companies, such as Hanson, Mr Richard Branson's private Virgin and Carlton Communications, will also figure largely.

The number of franchises could also shrink from 16 to 8, as each franchise is allowed to bid for another non-neighboring franchise. The biggest franchises will be prevented from bidding for each other.

Mr Christopher Bland, the chief executive of LWT, said heightened takeover activity immediately after the franchise round is inevitable. "We will only be taken over if we deserve to be; we'll make sure we don't deserve to be. But if there is a generous bid by a reputable company, it will be the responsibility of the board to recommend it."

Likely EC bidders include: Bertelsmann, the German media company; Signor Silvio Berlusconi, the European media baron who owns television stations in Italy, West Germany, France, Spain and Yugoslavia; CLT, which owns Radio Luxembourg and a stake in satellite channel RTL-Plus; Hachette, Havas and Canal Plus of France; and Axel Springer, the West German newspaper group.

CLT is understood to have approached Thames with an interest in buying the 56.5 per cent stake put up for sale in March by Thorn EMI and BET.

Alexanders' rise



PRE-TAX profits at Alexander Holdings, the Scottish based group of Ford motor dealerships, which is chaired by Mrs Aleksandra Clayton (above), improved from £673,000 to £707,000 in the

six months to end-March, on turnover ahead by 24.6 per cent to £43.6 million. Earnings per share climbed from 1.204p to 1.264p. Once again, there is no interim dividend. The shares were unchanged at 20p.

Ridley assures Japanese over UK-built cars

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

MR NICHOLAS Ridley, the Trade Secretary, has assured Tokyo that Japanese cars produced in Britain after 1992 will count as European-made.

He has also told the Japanese that despite the "title-tattle" they may read in newspapers, Mrs Thatcher was in no danger of tumbling.

Speaking to British reporters at the end of a five-day trip to Japan, he said the Japanese "seem to be worried that Mrs Thatcher may not win the next election. These myths I have been able to completely discount."

Japan accounts for 4 per cent of foreign investment in Britain and Mr Ridley said he had been given the feeling from chancery during his visit that "any difficulty" faced by the present British government could affect the way Japan thinks about Britain as a home for its investments.

Britain, home to several Japanese car plants, has been bickering with hardliners such as France, which want EC import quotas on Japanese cars for a dozen years after 1992 and for transplants — cars made in Japanese factories in the EC — to be included in the monitoring.

Mr Ridley said: "There can be no question of any goods manufactured within the

Community not being counted as European-made. That is in the Treaty of Rome. The majority of EC states are liberal towards car imports and they are not going to move to a more illiberal position."

He added that any transitional period of import quotas "should be as brief as possible — no years if possible."

During a recent visit to Tokyo, Mr Frans Andriessen, the EC's External Trade Relations Commissioner, found the Japanese less than enthusiastic about the EC plan for a transitional period, and very chilly towards his proviso that for such an interim period "to be meaningful, it has to take into account transplants in the Community."

But Tokyo is believed to be willing voluntarily to restrain its car exports, as it does to the US. Convinced that it holds the stronger cards, the Japanese government is not ready to have transplants included in any such monitoring.

Having shown that Britain was willing to go into bat for Japan, Mr Ridley asked in return for greater access in Japan for British investors. "I am really quite worried about how difficult it is for the British to invest in Japan and we'll have to do something about that."

Warner Howard up 10% to £4.6m

By Philip Pangalo

WARNER Howard Group, the commercial laundry systems and warm air hand-dryers supplier, announced pre-tax profits rose 10 per cent to £4.67 million in the year to end-February.

Turnover climbed by 9 per cent to £16.3 million. Laundry equipment, which accounted for 63 per cent of turnover, grew by 5 per cent, while the warm air dryers business grew by 15 per cent.

Earnings per share rose from 12.55p to 13.51p. The final dividend is improved to 2.94p (2.45p), making 4.5p (3.75p) for the year. Rental at 147p.

Changes at Hazlewood

By Our City Staff



HAZLEWOOD Foods, the acquisitive food manufacturer busy restructuring its operations, has strengthened its management team. It has appointed a new finance director to enable Mr Dennis Jones, a founding director, to concentrate on his role as corporate development director.

The company, which has recently fallen from City favour after turning in the sixth best performance on the stock exchange in the 1980s, is currently negotiating to dispose of one or two of its major divisions.

"We're reviewing all our operations to focus the business on a narrower range of

product," said Mr Jones, who added that Hazlewood will make a major disposal announcement with the group's preliminary results on June 12.

Mr John Simons, the company secretary, takes over as finance director. Mr Kevin Higginson, the group accountant, becomes company secretary. The company has also appointed two new directors: Mr David Applebyard, a manager in the fresh food division, and Mr Tom van Gorp, a director of Hazlewood International BV.

Hazlewood also announced the £3 million disposal of Kanes Food Products Ltd to Dr John Randall, a director.

Lee Cooper turns the corner with a reduced loss of £1.2m

By Our City Staff

VIVAT Holdings, the ailing Lee Cooper jeans and casual-wear company, is on the road to recovery following a major restructuring which involved the disposal of its loss-making United Kingdom retailing operations — Jean Jeanne, Jean Machine, Copyright and FU's — to Chelsea Man last November.

Trading became profitable again in the second half of the year as forecast by Vivat when it reported interim losses of £1.32 million for the six months to end-June, 1989.

The loss per share was decreased from 30p to 2.8p, and there is still no dividend. Turnover fell from £123.7 million to £108.5 million.

Mr Michael Cooper, the chairman, said all divisions of the group are now "trading satisfactorily" following the restructuring, which involved the disposal of its loss-making United Kingdom retailing operations — Jean Jeanne, Jean Machine, Copyright and FU's — to Chelsea Man last November.

He forecast a profit for the year and said dividend payments would resume once the group is firmly back in the black.

"After the plateau years of the mid-1980s and the two years required to restructure the group, it is now possible to

take a more optimistic view of its prospects for the final decade of the century," said Mr Cooper, who plans further growth throughout Europe, including the East.

Vivat said the Lee Cooper division, which accounts for 70 per cent of its sales, continues to hold "brand leadership" in France and Belgium, while its international licensing division, which distributes the Lee Cooper brand in Eastern Europe, Australasia, North Africa, the Middle East and Latin America, enjoyed a profitable year.

Vivat shares were up 1p to 54p.

Let's face it — trying to explain the virtues of the company

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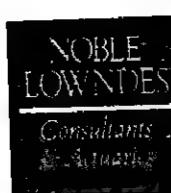
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WALL STREET

Profit-takers move in

New York
BLUE chip issues resumed their early decline as profit-taking continued to nibble at shares.

The Dow was down about five points at 2,816 and declines outpaced advances by almost two to one. The Dow (Reuters)

jumped 63 points on Friday and was up 49 at midday on Monday.

"That's going to take some time to digest," said Mr Paul Kronokken, technical analyst with Piper Jaffray and Hopwood.

Nikkei sheds some of its gains

TOKYO SHARES have shown some signs of regaining their former lustre, after tumbling 27 per cent in the first three months of this year, but brokers say a return to the days when the market soared by leaps and bounds is unlikely.

Mr Steve Archer, head of research at Smith New Court, said: "We have got a bull rally in a bear market."

The Nikkei index was down 45.61 points yesterday, closing at 31,997.40 after gaining 530.51 on Monday. It climbed 531.88 points on Friday.

But despite the gains, the stock market is unlikely to rise in a one-way fashion propelled by general bullish sentiment as it did during the bull run of last autumn, analysts said.

"Investors will have to look more at the fundamental value of stocks first," said Mr Nick Atters, head of research at James Capel Pacific.

But some optimism is justified, brokers and analysts said. The yen traded below 152 to the dollar in Tokyo yesterday for the first time in two months, easing fears of higher interest rates.

Shares of Japan's financial institutions rose, led by brokerage shares, and followed by banking, credit/lease and non-life insurance shares, partly on news from the United States of easing inflationary pressure, traders said.

• Frankfurt - West German shares reversed some early losses, but buying volume was not sufficient to break the market's five-day lower trend. The DAX index closed 9.08 points lower at 1,851.25 after slipping as low as 1,840.46.

• Hong Kong - Market talk that the veteran Chinese official Xu Jiatun had written an open letter of protest to China's senior leader Deng Xiaoping caused shares to close weaker, brokers said. The Hang Seng index fell 11.35 points to 2,963.09, well below an intraday high of about 2,990 in the morning session.

• Singapore - The stock market closed on a weaker note as prices succumbed to profit-taking after recent strong gains, brokers said. The Straits Times industrial index treated 5.21 points to end at 1,530.86.

Its results, following hot on the heels of Marks and Spencer's better-than-expected results and an encouraging trading report from Laura Ashley, suggests that at least

STOCK MARKET

London follows overseas markets back to earth

WITHOUT a firm lead from Wall Street, the London market turned its back on Monday's excitement and returned to the now familiar pattern of drifting slowly lower.

The combination of Wall Street running out of steam and Tokyo's overnight fall left London dealers with plenty of time to reflect on the gloomy domestic indicators - inflation, retail sales and producer output prices - that it had so studiously ignored for two days.

The market was also in uncharitable mood. Despite the commitment by leading brokers to donate 1p for every 500 of shares sold to Thames TV's Telethon, volume remained modest. By the close, which saw the FTSE 100

LONDON + METROPOLITAN: NEW WORRIES HIT DEVELOPERS



some retailers were weathering the storm. Laura Ashley rose 1p to 203.5p.

Shares in Allied-Lyons leaped 15p to 153p as analysts reconsidered their current year forecasts. The company made pre-tax profits of £655 million, towards the higher end of forecasts, in the year to March. About £630 million is being pencilled in for the current year. Shares in Vaux

Hall were back from 56p to 58p. Bass expects to sell four Dutch hotels separately.

Despite being 27 per cent up, pre-tax profits of £570 million from the conglomerate Hanson were in line with expectations and did little to enliven the afternoon session. The shares closed unchanged at 226.5p.

In the property sector, shares were hit by the news that receivers had been ap-

pointed at a London Docklands development South Quay Plaza Three. The 210,000 sq ft office development has been developed by two private companies, but the market feared their difficulties may be shared by one or two public companies.

The main casualties were the out-of-favour developers London & Metropolitan, which has recently featured on a number of sell recommendations, fell another 7p to 51p, while Speyhawk shed 6p to 138p. Regalia, which still labours under the tag of Docklands developer, fell 3p to 66p. Shares in Rosehaugh bucked the trend by rising 2p to 18p.

Wiggins Group, which has a number of commercial

gold mining shares again registered their nerves at the further weakening of the London gold price, down \$1.25 to \$367.75 an ounce. Freegold was 32p weaker at 578p. Driehaus was back from 696p to 665p and Rylova

dropped 15p to 167p. Bass dealers reported selective Middle East buying matched by Japanese selling.

Developments close to South Quay Plaza, remains in suspension at 38p.

Shares in Alfred McAlpine rose 8p to 327p on news that Mr Graeme Odgers was to become chief executive. Mr Odgers was group managing director of British Telecom for three-and-a-half years, but before that he performed the same role for Tarmac.

In the publishing sector, shares in News International, parent company of Times Newspapers, publisher of *The Times*, lost 4p to 274p on news that post-tax profits of its parent, The News Corporation, had fallen by 53 per cent to Aus\$147 million (£70 million) in the nine months to March. United Newspapers recently in demand because of Sir James Goldsmith's link with Mr Conrad Black's Hollinger which owns 9 per cent, lost a little of its recent improvement. The shares closed 2p lower at 326p.

Further consideration of the recent impressive results from Bielefeld Exhibitions added 25p to the shares which closed at 80p.

Matthew Bond

FT report hits German bonds

GERMAN bond prices slid in early trading on a *Financial Times* report that the German government planned an issue of special DM bonds, aimed at international investors, to help finance unification. Ten-year bonds fell 45-60 pence, and the yield on the federal government 74 per cent February 2000 rose from 8.54 per cent to 8.64 per cent.

Denying the story, Herr Kari Otto Pöhl, Bundesbank President, said: "There is no reason whatsoever to even consider special arrangements like this."

Continued from page 19

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Rosaleigh, Saintfield, Co. Down, BT24 7LH

£10,500 to £13,500

The National Trust is seeking to appoint an Assistant Regional Public Affairs Manager. The ARPAM will be involved in a wide range of public relations, communications, media publicity, events and publications. Previous relevant experience and commitment to the National Trust's ideals are essential. Some weekend and evening work will be required.

The post will probably be based between 25-35, and will be used to work under pressure, often to strict deadlines, while maintaining high standards of achievement.

The salary range is between £10,500 per annum to £13,500 per annum and you will have the opportunity to join the Trust's pension and car schemes.

For terms details and an application form, please write enclosing a stamped addressed envelope to:

Kerry Coffey
Personnel Officer
36, Queen's Gate, GATE
LONDON SW7 1RS

Closing date for completed applications is 4 June 1990.

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED OFFERS CHALLENGING FIELD SALES CAREERS

Due to expansion, we now have vacancies in the London Classified Advertisement Sales Department of Times Newspapers for a few energetic people who will be responsible for selling advertising space in *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

You should possess the kind of qualities and character to meet our requirements which are: enthusiasm, energy and dedication. There will be ample scope to capitalise on new business opportunities, and full training will be given to equip you to meet the challenges and demands of this role.

Ideally you will reside in London or within easy travelling distance. Your ability to respond to the competitive nature of advertising in order to develop new business for Times Newspapers will earn you the generous rewards of an excellent starting salary, together with an unmixed bonus scheme and 6 weeks annual holidays.

If you fit the description and would like to be considered as part of our team please write in full confidence enclosing your CV to:

Susan Goddard, Classified Advertisement Department
Times Newspapers Limited, P.O. Box 484, 1 Paddington Street, London E1 9XG.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AD SALES

The publishers of *International Financing Review* seek an advertising salesperson or manager who has excellent communication and sales skills and a minimum of two years experience in financial ad sales at a senior level. We have acquired one publication in 1990 and are launching two more, so not only will you have to sell across four different titles, you will also be able to review new media sources and originate sales literature for presentations. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

Please telephone Bruno Noble on 071-538 5659 or send your CV with a covering letter to IFR Publishing Ltd, South Quay Plaza II, 183 Marsh Wall, London E14 9FU.

IFR

COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE

Would you like to work in Moscow?

Intourist Travel Limited is looking for a conscientious, professional person with experience in tourism to work in their new Moscow office.

If you speak fluent Russian and consider that you have the right qualifications, send us your CV.

Attn: Liz Pellington, Marketing Manager, Intourist Travel Limited, Intourist House, 219 Marsh Wall, London E14 9FT.

SALES

International sports and arts events

Due to expansion a leading UK Co. has vacancies for sales staff. Earnings will be in excess of £15,000 after training and early opportunities are available for advancement into UK and international management.

Please send CV. to the Group Sales Director, Frederick House, 1 Frederick Clee, London W2 2HD.

ROVER

An ambitious and enthusiastic person is required to handle sales and marketing of vehicles from the main Dealership for Sonnen London & Sonnen Exporter. We are an advantage and the determination to succeed a necessity. We have a product where demand exceeds supply and the fortunate recipient of this position will join us at a very busy time.

A very attractive package will be offered to the successful applicant. Apply in writing with a current C.V. to:

The New Car Sales Manager, Triton Motors (Croydon) Ltd
96/100, Lower Addiscombe Road, Croydon, Surrey CR9 6AE.

MASON EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL

MARKETING MANAGER READING CM2

Experience in Multi National environment - European language an asset.

PUBLIC RELATIONS SE1 £14,500 (part time)

Modern Charity Organisation - Media office

TRAFFIC AND PRODUCTION £15,000

Advertising Agency - Experience required

GRADUATE TRAINEES CROYDON CM2

For training in Business Analyst - Insurance Industry

GRADUATES

Why wait to see your job advertised? Come and discuss your future career with us now!

RING WENDY GEORGE
ON 071-247 4811
FAX: 071-247 5277

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

SECRETARY/PA TO 2 DIRECTORS IN PROPERTY

A young and expanding firm of West End based Chartered Surveyors require a well presented, top quality Secretary/PA to join lively team.

- Previous Agency experience preferred
- Excellent audio and wordprocessing skills, pref wordperfect; 80 wpm
- Total commitment and initiative required
- Sense of humour a must

Salary - unlikely to be suitable for anybody currently earning less than £14,000 p.a.

Please apply in writing enclosing full C.V. to:

Ms Alison de Villiers
York Montague Limited
11 Hills Place
London W1R 1AG

STRICTLY NO AGENCIES

Star Spangled £18,000 pkg

Fly the flag and join the US division of successful fund managers based near Bank. Working principally for the Director in charge, responsibility and involvement will unfold very quickly: juggle busy diaries, talk to clients, organise masses of travel and attend weekly meetings. Initiative, team spirit, City experience and skills of 60/50/wp vital. Age 20s. Start off in pole position - call Esther Marsden on 071-256 5018.

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

GRAND HOTEL £14K

Meet the stars when you join this prestigious hotel group as PA to their Sales and Marketing Director. You will enjoy extensive liaison with PR Consultants overseas, organise training sessions for Sales Managers and assist your dynamic boss. 100/50 skills.

Please telephone 071 240 3511
2/3 Bedford Street,
Covent Garden WC2E 9HD

Elizabeth Hunt

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN STUDY ASSISTANT IN OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN £2,750 + bonuses

Capable and enthusiastic person (18+) with good typing skills to act as personal assistant to the Chairman of the American Institute for Foreign Study. Duties include office work, travel, friendly office. Benefits include annual bonus and free lunches.

Please apply in writing, enclosing CV to:
Miss M Eaton,
37 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HR

COULD YOU MANAGE TO EARN THIS PACKAGE?

£13,500 plus mortgage subsidy, profit sharing, BUPA, Pension, subsidised lunches, company sports and social club membership, Flexitime and real challenge - as General Management Secretary of this insurance company (by Bank TSB).

* A1 level standard and good communications skills required, plus typing (60 wpm), shorthand (90 wpm), and knowledge of WP Wordperfect and company based systems.

Non-smoking, well-presented person needed now.

Senior Secretaries
Lawrence House, 3-6 Trump Street, London EC2V 8DA
071 606 1611
(Fax 071 609 0592)

Recruitment Consultants

Personnel

071-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

071-481 4481

There's nothing like
a world leader or two
to get your career
on the move...

SECRETARY



When you join SABRE, you'll not only be part of the world's most advanced Computer Reservation System — you will also be part of American Airlines, the biggest and most successful force in the worldwide commercial airline industry.

So it will come as no surprise that SABRE can offer you a superb career environment. One that combines constant challenge with outstanding rewards and incentives. And that promises to put you at the heart of an expansion programme that is already gathering momentum in the UK.

As Secretary to our Marketing Director, you will use your experience to the full. Whether organising meetings and conferences, or making travel arrangements, you will achieve the highest standards of efficiency — and have a personal impact on the overall performance of a busy and rapidly growing department.

AmericanAirlines
Something special in the air.

SABRE
Travel Information Network

This is very much a PA role that calls for all-round secretarial skills, the maturity to work well on your own initiative, and a flexible approach to working hours. The ability to speak French is essential. Any other European languages would be extremely valuable. But, above all, you must be excited by the prospect of making your mark in a young, forward-thinking company that recognises, develops and rewards your ability.

Based at our prestigious new Head Office in Hounslow, you will receive a competitive salary and the kind of benefits you'd expect from the American Airlines group — including unlimited travel for you and your family after six months' service.

Interested? Then to discover more about your future with SABRE, please write with full career details to the Personnel Department, Ref: T/2, American Airlines, 61-63 Staines Road, Hounslow, Middlesex TW3 3HW.

EX NHS?
ADMIN £14,000

You have a thorough understanding of the NHS and are 'A' level or graduate educated. You have the opportunity to get really involved working for 2 bright, intelligent American managers setting up a new division. Highly administrative, basic keyboard skills please, age 25-35.

Call 071-377-2666 City
071-439-7001 West End

SECRETARIES PLUS

The Secretarial Consultants

HIT THE SHOW

£14,000+ Benefits
If you are a receptionist at the moment and feel you have enough experience to be a PA, then this could be for you. Based on the main reception area, greeting clients, visitors and friends, managing the conference rooms, and in general making sure everything runs smoothly. A professional attitude will help. Immediate interview will help you secure this wonderful position. Call 071...

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

STEP INTO PUBLISHING

FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME OPPORTUNITIES
If the world of publishing is what you want to move into we could be the right place for you. Based on the main reception area, greeting clients, visitors and friends, managing the conference rooms, and in general making sure everything runs smoothly. A professional attitude will help. Immediate interview will help you secure this wonderful position. Call 071...

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

£15,000 +
MORTGAGE
MARKETING

Secretary, 25+ needed for the Group Marketing Director of a City bank. You are 25+ and have the usual shorthand (80+) and audio skills. Generous benefits include free lunch, BUPA, non contributory pension + a mortgage subsidy worth around an extra £4,000 a year.

Call 071-377-2666 City
071-439-7001 West End

SECRETARIES PLUS

The Secretarial Consultants

FASHION

£12,000 + PERKS
If you're interested in fashion? Do you ever go shopping? Then this well established firm of Evolution Organics require a PA/Secretary to work on their Executive Assistant team. You will be involved in a wide range of responsibilities including, but not limited to: office management and working on 4 databases per year, handling and developing a report for a secretarial position or administrative role, part-time or full-time basis. Please give me a call. There are very good prospects and great benefits available. All offers are offsite. Please call 071...

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

HOLDING THE FONT

£25,000 + PERKS
If you're interested in fashion? Do you ever go shopping? Then this well established firm of Evolution Organics require a PA/Secretary to work on their Executive Assistant team. You will be involved in a wide range of responsibilities including, but not limited to: office management and working on 4 databases per year, handling and developing a report for a secretarial position or administrative role, part-time or full-time basis. Please give me a call. There are very good prospects and great benefits available. All offers are offsite. Please call 071...

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

NEWSPAPER
£16,000

Outgoing and flexible? Enjoy a highly sociable environment as PA/Secretary to a senior director. You have the opportunity to get really involved in his work. Shorthand essential, age 25-28.

Call 071-377-2666 City
071-439-7001 West End

SECRETARIES PLUS

The Secretarial Consultants

211,500 COLLEGE LEAVER

£25,000 + PERKS
The young lively co based in the heart of the west end requires a PA/Secretary to hold the fort. The post involves assisting the director and the office manager. Your duties will be varied and varied - only a little typing is required in addition to listening to the director and generally assisting him with his office. You will be given a beautiful may desk, a good keyboard, and much more. The job is never dull. This is a rare opportunity if you have great secretarial skills and a professional telephone manner, please call 071...

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ANTIQUES, FINE ART,
PURCHASE, WHAT ARE
THEIR VALUE

This well known auction house based in the West End requires a bright, lively, articulate, secretary to work on their valuation desk. The ideal candidate must be exceptionally well organised with excellent organisational skills, a good eye for detail, and a good grasp of English including spelling. A friendly personality and plenty of room to grow. Must be current driving licence. A good fun job with lots of involvement.

Call 071-377-2666 City
071-439-7001 West End

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

£16,000 - £18,000

We are looking for a quick thinking, exceptional person to work as a vital member of a successful, happy and tightly-knit team. Full training and support will be given, along with the opportunity to grow with the company. There is still space on the management board for people with the talent to help run the group.

You should be a good judge of people, have the confidence to project your personality in a marketing role and be a competent administrator with the mental agility to cope with a wide variety of tasks. Applications are invited from candidates in their mid-20s with at least two A levels, who have previously held both a secretarial and an executive job.

Please apply with full Curriculum Vitae and a contact telephone number before 1st June.

Box No B68, The Times Newspapers Ltd,
PO Box 484, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 8JD.

Executive Secretary

St James's

Your initiative and ability to work unsupervised will be vital when you join a large multinational company as PA to the enterprising American Managing Director. Responsibility will include considerable office administration and involvement with PR campaigns, contact listing and seminar organisation. Acting as his envy with senior level executives, your tact and diplomacy will come to the fore as you ensure the smooth flow of business in his absence. Skills 90/50/wp are required to enjoy the challenge of this new venture. Age 27-35. Please call Caroline Tuck on 071-437 6032.

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

MACKAY for Secretaries
OPEN TUESDAYS 'TIL 7PM

PA
£15,000

BUPA, Long Lane, EC1, PR1.
Personnel Consultant Head Office of
BUPA, Commercial Head Office of
BUPA, offering a wide range of
assisting career opportunities
including dynamic executive
director. Negotiations with doctors
and co-promising his hectic day
are all part of your day. Shorthand
and financial background essential.

Call 071-437 60323

BI-LINGUAL SEC
£14,000

Want to use your German and
French skills to the full? Then this
is an opportunity not to be missed.
Whilst assisting this busy
executive, within a dynamic
environment, you will be
dealing with a wide range of
European, travelling various
countries and providing
detailed support.
Call 071-437 60323.

CHAIRMAN'S PA
£15,000

The Chairman and Vice President
of a major international company
is looking for a first class, mature
PA/Secretary with excellent auto
skills and rusty shorthand to work
at their plush Pall Mall offices. It
will involve a wide range of skills
and you will be placed at
interesting positions.
Call 071-437 60323.

'PURELY' P.A.
£16,000

This is a superb position for a
PA to one for a major international company based
in W1. You will be involved in
organisational skills to the
full, arranging client entertainment,
cocktail parties, and
arranging international
travel (conversational French
required). The ability to
communicate at the highest level
+ polished presentation
skills are essential.
Hours 9-5, 30/60

Call Val Wade
Associates on
071-437-3793
(Rec Cons)

£18,000 NEG
PACKAGE

Age 19-25 + 4
secretaries with min 1/2
years exp for career
posts in luxurious
offices. City Bank. 'A'
levels. 90/100 SH.
071-495 1484
Daily Steptoe Appointments Ltd.

SECRETARY/RECEPTION

London W1
Young, well presented,
secretary/holder sec required for
firm of solicitors, medical practice
in W1. W1 exp. Good telephone
experience. Good organisational
skills. Age 20-25 year old. Salary
£11,000+. Tel: 071-581 1541.

OFFICE MANAGER
TO £18K

A superb career opportunity for
an organised and outgoing person
to join this leading design group.
Get involved in administration and
marketing projects as well as
ensuring the smooth running of
the office. Sales/bought ledger,
bank reconciliation exp needed
and 40wpm typing.

Please call 071-248 3744
Elizabeth Hunt,
2 Bow Lane EC4M 9EE.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CHARTLEIGH
Appointments

GROUP SECRETARY

£13,000

If your ideal working environment involves co-ordinating and initiating a well-balanced day, then you're just the type of person needed for this demanding position. Work within PR is one of London's largest and most successful Management Consultancy Company's, as part of a hectic team. Formulate and collate professional reports, type detailed and figurative documentation, produce graphs and charts. If you are highly motivated and can communicate effectively, then pick up the phone now and ask for our fax number. Ref: SB/G13.

MOORGATE 071-638-7003

FULL CONTROL
£15,000 + Benefits

Enjoy co-ordinating, negotiating and delegating! As Administrations Supervisor of this busy Company, you will be responsible for all aspects of the day-to-day running of the office. Involving the implementation of new policies and procedures, your experience and training will be stretched to the limit. Assistance with the installation of a new computer system. If you enjoy a challenge and want the rewards, please call us now. Ref: PV/G2.

HOLBORN 071-430-2291

SHORTHAND SAMPLER
£12,000

Enjoy a creative challenge in this exhilarating working atmosphere. Use your all round secretarial skills to work in a fast moving environment. You will be fully integrated into a variety of office situations, involving the implementation of new policies and procedures. Your experience and training will be stretched to the limit. Assistance with the installation of a new computer system. If you enjoy a challenge and want the rewards, please call us now. Ref: PV/G2.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE 071-215-1777

STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION
£12,000

An unique and exciting opportunity to join a highly successful small company. You will be fully integrated into a variety of office situations, involving the implementation of new policies and procedures. Your experience and training will be stretched to the limit. Assistance with the installation of a new computer system. If you enjoy a challenge and want the rewards, please call us now. Ref: PV/G2.

TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD 071-734-5075

TV TIMES
£13,000 + Bonus + IFSTL

An excellent opportunity has arisen as a result of promotion with this West End TV company. As Secretary to the Director of the Company, you will be responsible for office administration and a senior secretary to keep busy. Being solely in charge of office administration and organising regular meetings you'll enjoy a hectic but demanding and very rewarding position. Call now. Ref: AFC/C13.

TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD 071-734-5075

MARKETING PA
£12,500

Join our top secretarial team and allow us to help you become a member of the marketing team in this SW1 company. You will be working for the head of the department, co-ordinating him and the work of his team, whilst keeping your eye on the junior secretaries. If working with European countries and local involvement is your forte you'll never look back! Ref: RG/C143.

VICTORIA 071-423-4004

Going Places

071-481 4481

SECRETARIAL

071-481 4481

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

PARIS **£18,000 PCKGE**
Excellent new opportunity to use your fluent French & become involved as part of a busy team to set up this French department. This challenging role requires a bright & dynamic P.A. with diplomacy & a flexible manner. Lots of expert support & ability to take the baton. Knowledge of French preferred. 50 wpm typing. Age 25+.

FRANCE **£18,000 PCKGE**
Another opportunity to work in France (Paris) for the technical Centre of this friendly legislation. Your responsibilities include: general secretarial work, liaison with clients, telephone, follow-up and helping in the preparation of Client Reports. 50 wpm typing required.

GERMAN OPPORTUNITY - CITY **£17,000 PCKGE**
We are looking for a German speaking Secretary to join our European office in the International Division of a well-established Company. This is a demanding position involving handling of a wide range of correspondence, reports and telephone. Lots of expert support & ability to take the baton. Knowledge of German preferred. 50 wpm typing required.

ITALIAN VENTURE **£15,000 + PCKGE**
We are looking for an Italian speaking Secretary to join our European office in the International Division of a well-established Company. You will handle correspondence, reports and telephone. Lots of expert support & ability to take the baton. Knowledge of Italian preferred. 50 wpm typing required.

SPANISH OR PORTUGUESE SECRETARY **£14,000 + EXC BENS**
We are looking for a Spanish speaking Secretary to join our European office in the International Division of a well-established Company. You will handle correspondence, reports and telephone. Lots of expert support & ability to take the baton. Knowledge of Spanish or Portuguese preferred. 50 wpm typing required.

GERMAN OPPORTUNITY **£12,000 + BENIS**
We are looking for a German speaking Secretary to join our European office in the International Division of a well-established Company. You will handle correspondence, reports and telephone. Lots of expert support & ability to take the baton. Knowledge of German preferred. 50 wpm typing required.

ITALIAN JUNIOR **£11,000 PCKGE**
We are looking for an Italian speaking Secretary to join our European office in the International Division of a well-established Company. You will handle correspondence, reports and telephone. Lots of expert support & ability to take the baton. Knowledge of Italian preferred. 50 wpm typing required.

FRANC/SPANISH IN SURVEY **£11,000 PCKGE**
We are looking for a French speaking Secretary to join our European office in the International Division of a well-established Company. You will handle correspondence, reports and telephone. Lots of expert support & ability to take the baton. Knowledge of French or Spanish preferred. 50 wpm typing required.

GERMAN OPPORTUNITY **£12,000 + BENIS**
A fluent German speaking Secretary is required to work for a well-established Company. You will handle correspondence, reports and telephone. Lots of expert support & ability to take the baton. Knowledge of German preferred. 50 wpm typing required.

FRANC/ENGLISH IN MARKETING - BRIMBROOK **£10,000**
A fluent French speaking Secretary is required to work for a well-established Company. You will handle correspondence, reports and telephone. Lots of expert support & ability to take the baton. Knowledge of French or English preferred. 50 wpm typing required.

LANGUAGES IN TRAVEL **£9,500 + FULL TRAINING**
We are looking for a fluent French speaking Secretary to work for a well-established Company. You will handle correspondence, reports and telephone. Lots of expert support & ability to take the baton. Knowledge of French or English preferred. 50 wpm typing required.

EMPLOYERS PLEASE NOTE:
We always have current English vacancies for temporary, bilingual bookings and Temp to Perm work. Ring us immediately if you need help!

Boyce Bilingual
071-287 6060

USE YOUR ITALIAN!
£12,000 PACKAGE FOR COLLEGE LEAVER

Why let your Italian go to waste, when this well established bank needs your skills, and is more than prepared to pay well for them?

A Receptionist/Secretary is required who has good conversational Italian (some written), 40-50 wpm typing and - ideally - some WP experience. Young, friendly office and good prospects for advancement.

International Secretaries
174 New Bond Street, London W1V 9NN
071-491 7100
(Fax: 071-501 2875)
Recruitment Consultants

Leading Light
£15,000 pkg

Director of the German desk in the Capital Markets Division of a famous Merchant Bank needs a switched on GERMAN speaking secretary. Plenty of chance to shine as you use your German to liaise with clients, organise a busy diary, make lots of travel arrangements and handle correspondence with lightning efficiency. Candidates aged 25-35 with star skills of 100/60/wpm, City experience and good conversational German can expect a glittering package.

Please telephone Nicola Whentham on 071-588 3535.

Crone Corkill
Multilingual

SPRECHEN SIE DEUTSCH?

We have a constant demand for German speaking secretaries work on contracts for large international companies in Germany. Good secretarial skills required. In addition to salary we provide accommodation and pay a daily living allowance. Take advantage of this exciting opportunity!

Telephone or send full CV to Argo Employment Services (UK) Ltd, 5 Albany House, Washington, Tyne and Wear, NE37 1BJ. Telephone 091-477 8838.

AMERICAN speaking **Customer Service** agent for **start date** in W. **£12,000** + **shortage** sub. **friendly manner** **new environment** **071-531 0902**

GERMAN **Customer Services** in **Marketing** **£12,000** + **shortage** **sub. friendly manner** **new environment** **071-531 0902**

GERMAN speaking **secretary** for **start date** in **Marketing** **£12,000** + **shortage** **sub. friendly manner** **new environment** **071-531 0902**

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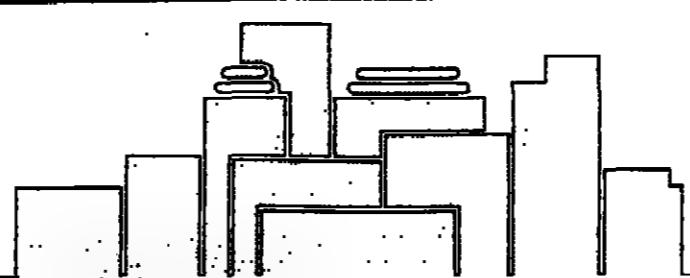
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RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

The market rescue

The injection of a sizeable stake by Commercial Union into Anglia Secure Homes and its service business for the elderly, Haven Services, has two main implications: it shows that the retirement homes sector has not escaped the housing slump and demonstrates changes to come in the industry.

Commercial Union is not simply helping to secure Anglia's future. The company is preparing to tap a growing market, and sell a range of financial products to the elderly, encouraging them to use the equity in their property.

Anglia, the second largest retirement homes developer after McCarthy & Stone, hopes to sell up to 500 units in the year ending next September compared with 445 last year, but the prices have had to be reduced to sell in the difficult market.

Richard Clough, Anglia's group managing director, says: "It will benefit all our residents in the long term and will also enable us to continue to provide housing for the retired that allows residents to enjoy privacy and independence, with the benefits of a worry-free environment."

The retirement market has seen a dramatic drop in sales, from about 12,000 in 1988 to 6,000 in 1989 and the prospect of little more than 4,000 in 1990. Anglia's refinancing means that it will be ready to

The retirement home sector, although not immune to the housing slump, is widening the range of what it offers to include more luxurious apartments

take advantage of the recovery when it comes in this still growing sector. The company plans to build more higher-priced units and to offer a complete package involving not only a home but a reorganization of the buyer's finances and a promise of a high standard of care.

Before the retirement homes sector began to emerge, early in the 1980s, the coast was where people went to retire. Although the cloistered development in a town or village has become an appealing part of the market, the seaside retains its pull.

Anglia has a scheme, Castle Court, at Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, with one- and two-bedroom flats from £47,500. For the first time the company is offering residents a range of optional services such as cooked meals and a laundry and cleaning service, all individually priced. At Bournemouth, Dorset, it has a development of one- and two-bedroom flats set in landscaped gardens at Wellington Court. Prices start at £79,950. Details: 0206 752200.

McCarthy & Stone also has a scheme in Bournemouth,

Park View Court, which is 61 flats in landscaped gardens opposite open parkland and linked to Queensmount, a registered nursing home. Here, and elsewhere, the company is offering the alternative of renting. At Park View Court, it has flats at weekly rents of £121.75, including warden and service costs.

Along the coast at Dawlish, Sefton Hall, a Georgian mansion, provides a residential and nursing home, with rental flats built in the grounds. Rentals start at £90.90 for a one-bedroom flat. Details: 0425 638863.

Further west, Hunting Gate Homes has built a retirement scheme at Brixham. The 31 one- and two-bedroom flats are arranged around courtyards and the qualifying age is 60. The prices for the flats at Wren Court range from £55,950 for one bedroom to £72,950 for two bedrooms.

Although not a retirement development, and therefore lacking the associated facilities, The Brake Yard at St Mawes, Cornwall, is a scheme of four cottage-style homes set in a private courtyard, which is ideal for retirement — a

lovely area with a mild climate. The three-bedroom properties of stone and brick under a slate roof have a traditional Cornish stone and slate fireplace in the living room, a garage, patio and small garden. They are priced at £139,000 to £158,000. The agents are H. Tiddy & Sons, of St Mawes. Details: 0326 270212.

A retirement scheme that has no comparison is the 25-acre Tabley Estate in Cheshire, where the Grade I listed Tabley House, built by John Carr, of York, and dating back to 1761, is the focus for a retirement and care development by Cygnus Health Care.

The Palladian-style house was the home of the Leicester family for more than 200 years until it passed to the University of Manchester, which sold it in 1988 to Cygnus Health Care. The house retains its collection of British paintings and furnishings, with works by Turner and Lawrence, and it will also provide a wide choice of rooms and suites, and a separate wing for those who require continuous nursing care.

The old stable block has been converted to provide a range of apartments and cottages for those who wish to remain independent but who can take advantage of the facilities at Tabley House, which include a restaurant and bar, as well as the mu-



The old and the new: the Palladian splendour of Tabley House in Cheshire (above) contrasts with the modern brick of Elizabeth Court, Chelsea, both providing luxurious flats at the upper end of the retirement market. Tabley House, which offers a library and a museum with a collection of British paintings and furniture for its residents, has the atmosphere of a country house hotel. The sharply contrasting Elizabeth Court has the benefit of the latest design standards to boost its appeal, remaining a quiet oasis in the midst of the west London bustle.

seum and library. John Hughes, Cygnus Health Care's director, says: "There is no other development offering residents the chance to live in Georgian splendour surrounded by exceptional works of art and acres of land."

Prices for the one- and two-bedroom apartments and two- and three-bedroom cottages



range from £79,500 to £149,500, through joint agents Meller Braggins of Knutsford, and Cluttons, of Harrogate. Details: 0655 50888.

Central London has few schemes aimed at the retirement market. One of the first is Elizabeth Court, in Milbank Street, Chelsea. The joint developers, Harry Neal

and Guardian Housing Association, have created what is more easily achieved in a less crowded environment than London — a quiet development between King's Road and Cheyne Walk built around landscaped gardens.

The development is spacious, with wide hallways and seating areas leading to the flats. It has a number of safety features, including a speech-sensitive call system.

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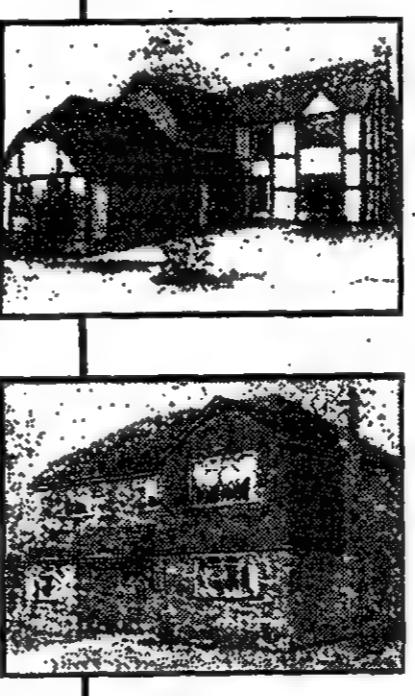
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WELSH VALLEY

Fitzgerald the man to restore pride to the green jerseys

By George Ace

Ciaran Fitzgerald, Ireland's most successful rugby captain in the post-war era, is fast emerging as a strong favourite to take over as national coach next season.

The former Army officer, who led Ireland to two triple crown successes in 1982 and 1983 and captained the British Lions in New Zealand in 1983, may be short on coaching experience at provincial level but he has in tandem with Johnny Malone, another former Ireland captain and British Lion, enjoyed considerable success with Ireland under-21 and under-25 teams. As a leader and motivator, however, Fitzgerald stands head and shoulders above any other candidate.

His Army training stood him in good stead when he took over the captaincy of Ireland in the early Eighties. He spoke a language all could understand and, while he was a firm disciplinarian so far as one can be as captain of an

Irish team, he had the knack of getting things done by quiet persuasion rather than ranting and roaring.

These attributes, coupled to a certain presence, make him an almost automatic choice; and that is said with no disrespect to the other candidates for one of the most demanding jobs in rugby. But if anyone has the acumen to lead Ireland out of the mire of mediocrity it is Fitzgerald, who was born in Galway in June 1952 and is a true son of Connacht.

Like another famous offspring of the western province, Ray McLaughlin, a former Irish captain and British Lion, Fitzgerald is a proud man who will never stop drumming it into his team how fortunate it is to be pulling on a green jersey, a man who will never accept less than maximum effort and who, in his inimitable manner, is capable of heralding a new era in Irish rugby.

Change of name for Gosforth

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

GOSFORTH, who remained in the second division of the Courage Clubs Championship last season only because there was no relegation, will play under a new name next season. They will be known as Newcastle Gosforth as they have up residence at their new Brunton Road ground in August (David Hands writes).

The club's annual meeting on Monday night received assurances that the ground and clubhouse, which are costing £1.2 million, will be completed in time, despite a change of building contractor.

It will be officially on September 9 by Michael Peary, who is due to be elected president of the Rugby Football Union in July and will bring a guest XV to play Newcastle Gosforth.

By that time Mick Mahoney, their former coach, will be getting to grips with his new paid appointment as director of coaching, announced earlier this month.

MATTHEW Ridge, the young full back who toured Wales and Ireland last autumn with Wayne Shelford's New Zealand team, has turned professional for an unspecified fee. Ridge, aged 21, will play for Manly-Warringah, the leading Sydney rugby league club.

He follows the path taken by Kuri Sherlock, the Auckland centre who went to play rugby league in Sydney in 1987, in that he leaves rugby union without having achieved his ambition of winning a cap. That, as much as anything, is a tribute to the sustained consistency of John Gallagher, the Wellington full back who was born in London and is, perhaps, the world's best full back.

Gallagher is still only 26 and Manly have clearly recognized the frustration which exists for any would-be heirs. The same situation exists for Zinzan Brooke, like Ridge an

Aucklander who has to live in the shadow of another leading player — in his case Wayne Shelford, New Zealand's No. 8 and captain.

Brook, who captained the All Blacks at this year's Hong Kong sevens, has also been linked with Manly, who are now coached by Graham Lowe, the New Zealander who contributed so much to Wigan's success on the British rugby league scene.

Manly said of Ridge, who has also played stand-off half: "I think he's an exciting player. He's quick and he has shown he has got the courage and the right attitude in modern competitive sport."

Many are hoping to make further signings before the end of the month and it will not distress Scotland should they make further raids into New Zealand — the Scots begin their tour there at the end of this month.

SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

Basketball's bright future

By Jane Wyatt

THE Princess of Wales will be making her third appearance in seven months as patron of the British Sports Association for the Disabled (BSAD), when she attends a wheelchair basketball development day at the Fountain Leisure Centre at the Fountain Leisure Centre on Friday.

She will be meeting children with various disabilities, who will be receiving coaching from a number of leading players, including Martin Clark, a member of the England basketball squad.

The event is one in a series of 20 junior and senior development days being held around the country this year. They are part of a joint effort by the BSAD and the Great Britain Wheelchair Basketball Association (GBWBA), to encourage more players and coaches into the game.

An attempt is also being made to recruit able-bodied players and coaches, who may be in-

terested in contributing to the wheelchair game by refereeing. To demonstrate the skill and excitement of the wheeled version, matches involving local teams, or even regional championships, will be held.

The sport is at last gaining in popularity, having been in decline in this country through the 1970s and early 1980s. In 1981, there were only 98 registered players, all of them male. By 1987, that figure had risen to 350, including about 100 women, playing in 35 teams.

Today, there are approximately 500 club and league players, as well as 250 school children playing wheelchair basketball. But these figures do not compare well with the situation in France, where the number of players runs into several thousand.

The GBWBA's development officer, Fiona Davidson, says basketball in Britain stagnated just at the time when it started

to blossom in other countries, and she attributes some of the problems to a lack of professionalism among coaches.

"Our coaches are very good on the technical side, most of them having been former players, but they don't know the psychology, physiology and fitness aspects of the game that you get through studying sport at a high level," Davidson said.

"We are reviewing the whole situation and intend to implement some radical changes in selection procedures."

An injection of funds from sponsors, enabling the GBWBA to have its first full-time officer, and the BSAD to have its two-year development programme, means the future is beginning to look brighter for wheelchair basketball. It is hoped that the development days will stimulate enough interest to make Davidson's target of a thousand players by the end of the year a distinct possibility.

Boutin reported: "The bruised foot which caused Mukkadaam to miss Chester has not cleared up as quickly as anticipated and he will not now be entered for the Predominant Stakes."

His trainer Dick Hern reported: "The bruised foot which caused Mukkadaam to miss Chester has not cleared up as quickly as anticipated and he will not now be entered for the Predominant Stakes."

The West Ilsley trainer added: "It is, however, still

hoped that he may be ready to run in the Derby."

Mukkadaam made a winning reappearance in the Labrador Stakes at Kempton before finishing fourth to the subsequent 2,000 Guineas winner Tiro in the Craven Stakes at Newmarket. But his injury forced him to miss the Chester Vase last week.

There was no change in William Hill's betting on the Epsom classic, where Mukkadaam remains a 16-1 chance.

The race, due off at 3.30, will be televised by BBC 1.

• In the group two Tattersalls EBF Roger Gold Cup at the Curragh on Saturday, Pat Eddery rides Batshot for Ben Hanbury, Frankie Dettori is on Purple Army and Gary Carter has been booked for the Geoff Wragg-trained Braiswick.

Boutin said: "I am confident he will put up a better fight this time. I don't say he will win, but he will do much better."

The £122,000 four-day entry of 12, and another definite runner is the Guineas fourth Rock City, who like Tiro, is trained by Richard Hannon.

The Italian 2,000 Guineas winner Candy Gien, trained by Christian Wall, is another Eng-

land-based horse to be entered for the Derby.

The Dublin bookmaker Alan Tuthill goes 5-4 on Tiro, 7-4 Machiavellian, 7-1 Royal Academy, 8-1 Lotus Pool.

The entries are Basstelle Day, Candy Gien, Dickens Lane,

St. Leger, 8-1 Lotus Pool.

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Anshan to uphold Guineas form

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

THE form of this year's 2,000 Guineas will be put to the test for the first time at York today when Anshan, who finished third in the Newmarket classic, contests the William Hill Dante Stakes.

Being by Persian Bold out of a mare by Manado, Anshan should get the extended 10 furlongs all right, although I would not care to bet on him staying the Derby distance.

Persian Bold is the sire of Anvari, who won a classic trial over a mile and a quarter at Leopardstown last Saturday, as well as Persian Heights, who was first past the post in the International Stakes, over today's course and distance two years ago, only to be later disqualified.

Being a realist, Anshan's

is in intent on taking Anshan's career one step at a time.

He believes, quite rightly, that today's prize is well worth winning in its own right before any thought is given to the Derby.

In the Guineas Anshan lacked the final pace of Tirol and Machiavellian, but he still did well to beat the Greenham winner Rock City for third place. Before that he had run out a worthy winner of the Free Handicap.

In the Newmarket classic Raj Wali mystified his connections by beating only one home. In reality, he should have finished somewhere near Elmamoul, but even that would have put him five lengths behind Anshan.

Dorset Duke was greatly flattered by his proximity at Newmarket to Theatrical Charmer who was cased almost to a walk, while Sangamore was outstayed by Anvari, whose trainer, Clive Brittain, is now represented by Ridgeponer who was comfortably held by Duke Of Paducah



John Gosden, who trains the Dante hope Anshan

in a match at Lingfield only last Friday.

While Barry Hills's horses have been doing well of late, Laxey Bay, his runner here, has failed, albeit only narrowly, to land gambles at Newmarket at Haydock and Newmarket.

Last season, she finished about as far behind Rock

Hopper at Newmarket as Karina Bay did at Sandown last month. That should not be good enough if Anshan runs up to his Guineas form.

If he does, he could easily become the middle leg of a treble for his jockey Walter Swinburn, who is expected to win the BBA Middleton Graduation Stakes for Michael Stoute on Hemellic, just as he did 12 months ago on Neatric Flame.

Later in the programme, his stable companion Zara can complete a double for Stoute and Swinburn's treble by winning the *Mail On Sunday* Three-Year-Old Series Handicap.

Even with her weight increased by a 5lb penalty for winning at Doncaster nine days ago, Zara appears to have sufficient in hand to beat Casamunne, who so nearly forced a dead-heat with Walking Saint at Epsom. Afterwards, Walking Saint was no match for Zara on Town Moor.

Otherwise, the sport on the Sunbury track this evening should be notable for a Pat Eddery success with Rejonee (8-45).

Having run Razeen to a neck at Sandown a week ago, Rejonee rates a nap to open his account by winning the Kempton Business Centre Maiden Stakes.

The word from Newmarket

is that Stoute also expects Marwell's son Schlaa to go well when he makes his racecourse debut in the Wilkinson Memorial Stakes. But here I just prefer Festival Of Magic, who will have gained what could easily turn out to be priceless experience when running so well behind Model Village at Newmarket.

At Kempton, Argentum, who along with Digression was the highest rated English-trained two-year-old in last year's European Free Handicap, looks set to begin his three-year-old career by winning the Ring and Brymer Stakes.

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The word from Newmarket

YORK

By Mandarin

2.00 Pigalle Wonder.
2.25 Mellicent.
3.05 Craft Express.
3.40 Anshan.
4.10 Zarma.
4.45 Festival Of Magic.

By Michael Seely
2.35 HELLENIC (nap). 4.10 Zarma.

Going: good to firm

Draw: 51-61, low numbers best

2.0 DALTON STAKES (2-Y-O: £4,347; 6f (6 runners)

101 (2) 1 FOURHORN 15 (P) (Four Racing) J Berry 9-3-0 — J Carroll —
102 (5) 12 SATALITE BOY 12 (P) (W Turner) J Etherington 9-3 — R Cochrane —
103 (1) 1 STAMFORD BRIDGE 11 (P) (M Brittan) M Brittan 8-3-0 — T O'Brien —
104 (1) 1 ATYL CLASSIC 26 (P) (P Omr) J S Wilson 8-12 — Dean McEwan —
105 (5) 2 DAVID FLIGHT 32 (P) (Bigg) R Hollinshead 6-11 — S Parks —
106 (4) 2 PIGALLE WONDER 16 (P) (Grondy) M Brittan 6-11 — M Roberts —
107 (5) 3 BETTING 15 (P) (Sawyer) 6-11 — J Poulton — 6-11 — S Parks —
108 (1) 4 DALTON 15 (P) (Fitzgerald) 6-11 — J Poulton — 6-11 — S Parks —
109 (2) 5 ROCK CITY 9-3 W Carson 6-11 — S Poulton — 6-11 — S Parks —
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218 (1) 114 DALTON 15 (P) (Fitzgerald) 6-11 — J Poulton — 6-11 — S Parks —
219 (1) 115 DALTON 15 (P) (Fitzgerald) 6-11 — J Poulton — 6-11 — S Parks —
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223 (1) 119 DALTON 15 (P) (F

CRICKET

Williams has Kent struggling to escape a trouncing

By Ivo Tempest

LORD'S (Middlesex won toss): Middlesex, with all their first-innings wickets in hand, are 125 runs behind Kent.

OUT-BATTED and out-bowled by Middlesex, Kent will do well to avoid a trouncing by Friday. Only Matthew Fleming and Christopher Cowdrey, cricketers of kindred assertive temperament, countered the accuracy of Neil Williams, who took seven for 61.

These were Williams's best figures for Middlesex, but not of his career. For an English Counties XI he took seven for 55 against Zimbabwe five years ago, in a match accorded first-class status. Twice yesterday he was on a hat-trick, probing all the while in the vicinity of off stump. He also bowled the occasional pretty fast one.

Fraser bowled five fewer overs, conceded half as many runs and was wicketless. That was an anomaly if ever there was one. It was his first match of the season and if he was a little gingerish in the follow-through, his line was immaculate. With England's one-day matches imminent, Alan Knott was present to assess his fitness in detail. At any rate, he suffered no reaction to his side injury.

Weary batsmen in battle for survival

By John Woodcock

BRISTOL (Glamorgan won the toss; first day of four): Gloucestershire, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 291 runs behind Glamorgan.

Glamorgan spent most of a blustery day scoring 291, Butcher getting 83 of those in 88 overs. With the exception of Maynard and Richards, with their special gifts, and later by Cowley, the bowling was rarely, sometimes weakly, treated.

Only by bending their backs could the bowlers get much out of the pitch, and yet both Maynard and Holmes had fenders broken, by Lawrence and Walsh respectively.

How odd, it seems, in these days of obsessively short-pitched bowling, that no one has yet come up with a batting glove that is proof against it. One theory is that it is because they are no longer padded with horse hair.

Butcher's innings, of course, had the merit of doggedness. He found it hard work, but he has never minded that, and four-day cricket encourages the graver. Even he, though, lost patience in the end, driving too soon at Alayne and being caught at extra cover.

Just as it was a different game when Maynard and Holmes had to retire, so too did Richards. He was, so it was for the most part, when Walsh was bowling and the others were not. In view of this, it was strange that Walsh was not used more.

After an hour during which the umpires allowed him to bowl as short as he pleased, he had had Morris caught at slip off a lifter, and Holmes, concerned more with defending himself than his wicket, taken at short leg.

Holmes had already been hit twice by Walsh, and Maynard was no keener to face him than anyone else. But he came off after bowling only seven overs,

Century by Harvey as Chigwell win chase

Schools cricket by George Chesterton

AMONG a number of dramatic run-chases, Chigwell's 202 in 23 overs deserves pride of place. Macclesfield batted first and, with 75 not out from Clark and 57 from Dolan, they declared at 201 for two. Harvey, who plays for Essex under-17, made 102, including three sixes, and Carpenter 74 in a second-wicket partnership which raced Chigwell to a nine-wicket victory.

Cheltenham, who were entertainers, Malvern, elected to bat on a fast true pitch. Having been 100 without loss at lunch, they accelerated to set Malvern a target of 250. Cowdron, with 114, and Larocca, 59, were the main scorers, but Cheltenham declared for the loss of only three wickets. Horton, the Malvern captain, made 100 and Sykes 62. At the start of the final 20 overs, 140 was still required

and, thanks to Ferguson and Crawley, the latter striking 27 in three overs, Malvern won by five wickets.

Malvern recovered from 121 for seven to 203 when they visited Clifton. Clifton's response started with 151 for the first wicket. Despite some tight bowling by Marborough, the home team won by seven wickets. Williams made 121 not out and Bradfield batted first at Stowe and, despite a shaky start, declared at 233 for five. Bridge, contributing 121 not out and Smith 70, Stowe were never on terms with the target, losing too many wickets, and were happy to draw the match on 159 for nine.

Edmonds took five for 45 as Edinburgh Academy beat Glenalmond by two wickets.

NOTE: This is not an invitation to invest and all applications must be pursuant to the Prospectus dated 25/4/1990 registered at Companies House.

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The Prospectus is available from the Company at Solent House, opposite Royal Pier, Southampton SO1 0AN. Telephone: (0703) 631262. Fax: (0703) 631265. Please write, fax or telephone for a Prospectus.

The ball, a Duke, swung around, if only for the first couple of hours. By then, Kent's first four batsmen had gone for not many. Benson and Hinks both looked to misjudge the line. Hinks leaving a ball in Williams's first over which pitched and hit middle stump.

Ward played crookedly at Williams's next ball and lost his off stump. Taylor, who took 31 minutes to get off the mark, was picked up by Emburey at first slip with his customary competence. That was 33 for four. Cowdrey was now joined by Fleming and, doubtless to his surprise, outscored.

Not many Kent batsmen managed that, but then Fleming's character is reflected in his batting. Besides, no relative of the creator of James Bond is likely to potter about the crease. Off the mark with a sumptuous four through extra cover, Fleming made the most of the withdrawal of Fraser from the attack as soon as he came in.

Always looking to drive, he was dropped on 22 and then on 53. Each time he was looking to hit the cover off the ball, yet he showed this aggression can be tempered with

sound defence. With Cowdrey he put on 122 in 35 overs. His 69, made in 139 minutes with 13 fours, followed his initial first-class half-century in Kent's last match.

Each was out driving. Fleming caught at the wicket off Cowans and Cowdrey at extra cover after Williams had returned at the pavilion end.

From 155 for four Kent's lower order fell away in the face of medium-paced bowlers who excelled themselves. Haynes and Roseberry emphasized in reply that this is truly a four-day pitch.

NEWTOWN: First Innings

S G Hinks b Williams 16

M P Benson c Emburey b Williams 0

T P Taylor c Emburey b Williams 0

C S Cowdrey c Haynes b Williams 47

M V Fleming c Cowdrey b Cowans 65

W S Hinks c Cowdrey b Williams 15

C Pemps c Ramprakash b Williams 3

T A Mervick c Emburey b Hughes 10

R P Ward c Cowdrey b Williams 16

Extras (4, b, 3, n, 11) 18

Total (77.3 overs) 199

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 3-20, 3-20, 4-33, 5-155, 6-165, 7-182, 8-174, 9-162, 10-151, 11-145, 12-135, 13-125, 14-115, 15-105, 16-95, 17-85, 18-75, 19-65, 20-55, 21-45, 22-35, 23-25, 24-15, 25-7, 26-1, Emburey 3-7, 4-7

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

D L Haynes not out 32

Extras (no 7) 32

T M Cowdrey not out 31

K R Brown, P P Cowdrey, J Emburey, N F Williams, A R C Fraser, S P Hughes and N Cowans to bat

Score (10.3 overs) 71

Umpires: J H Hampshire and M Kitchen.

Umpires: J H Hampshire and M Kitchen

It is no secret that Brady may one day steer the Republic along the scenic route to goal

Brady pockets at least £350,000

From Clive White
Dublin

ADMIRE and respected though he still is in Ireland, Liam Brady could not have hoped to receive during next month's World Cup finals the same show of affection that will be afforded him here this afternoon at Lansdowne Road when he makes his record 72nd and final appearance for the Republic of Ireland before another capacity crowd of 47,000.

It will be of some consolation to him for failing to make Jack Charlton's World Cup squad, as will also be the £350,000 minimum he is likely to receive from this international against Finland. It is the first time that the Football Association of Ireland has granted anyone an international as a testimonial. Brady, for whom there has also been a gala dinner and a golf day in his honour here this week, is donating £50,000 from the receipts to the Drug Awareness Programme in Dublin.

Given the degree of rich fulfilment in the career of Brady, it would seem, at first sight, that there are few parallels to be drawn with that of George Best, the only comparable jewel spawned by the Emerald Isle in the past three decades. Yet both came to England to make their first-division debuts, though 10 years apart, at the age of 17, and both, destined were destined never to grace the stage of the finals of an international championship. In each case their country's graduation came too late for them, at least as far as World Cups were concerned.

It was with wicked irony that when the finals of the European Championship did beckon Brady in the twilight of his career two years ago, the player who was rarely booked and even more rarely injured should find himself ineligible on both these counts. "If anything, the situation with the European Championship was more

saddening for me than it is with the World Cup," he said. "I'm getting on a bit now, but then I was at an age, when I was just right."

Time and, more pertinently, the running game of Charlton's Irish team finally caught up with Brady last September when he suffered the degradation of substitution after 35 minutes against West Germany. Charlton had seen enough to tell him that at 33, and after that serious knee injury, Brady's best days were behind him. Like the boxer who suffers an unexpected reverse, Brady immediately announced his retirement from international football.

"I wanted to do so well that day," Brady said. "I just wish he would have given me longer. Naturally, I'm disappointed not to be going to the World Cup as a player but I'm very happy with the way it's worked out."

"People think that Jack and I are at loggerheads, but we're not at all. We respect each other's views on how the game should be played. Jack needs players to do exactly what he wants them to do. What he wants from his midfield players is a very physical, strong-running game. I could make an attempt at it but there are players in the squad who are certainly much better suited to that way of playing me."

Brady conceded that his successor, Andy Townsend, is more Charlton's kind of player — aggressive and skilful with it. "I think he can play a bit. He certainly plays more for Norwich than he does for us." He is grateful to Charlton for giving the Republic greater self-confidence and, with experience gained in the European Championship finals, he believes they will be even stronger in Italy. "If we can get through the first phase, we're going to surprise a few people again," he said.

Nineteen games unbeaten in Dublin and just one defeat, home and away, in nearly two years make a powerful case in support of

Charlton's philosophy. But a 16-year professional career of unparalleled performance at home and abroad has taught Brady that there is another way, another route which the Irish might have taken towards achieving similar success.

When Charlton took over as manager four years ago and preached a gospel totally alien to Brady, the greatest playmaker in Irish history learnt gradually to accept it and apply it without ever becoming one of its disciples. "I played my best football for Ireland under Jack," he said. "Such a paradox can only be explained by Brady's adaptability and keen sense of patriotism. He takes great pride in having played in all the qualifying games at the last European Championship, if not the finals themselves.

Without that willingness to accept change, he would never have been the success that he was on the merry-go-round of Italian club football, which he rode for seven years in the colours of four clubs after leaving Arsenal. Not since John Charles in the Fifties had a Briton made such an impact upon the Italian game.

In his first three seasons, adroit use of that famous left foot guided Juventus to two League championships and Sampdoria to promotion. More big-money moves followed to Internazionale and Ascoli. "The last move was a mistake," he said. "Money is one of the things that has to be right, not the only thing."

He may put his experiences to use as an agent and "bring some respectability" to this sometimes grubby corner of the modern game.

He recently helped Sturz Sister negotiate a new contract with West Ham and advised Tony Cascarino

on his move to Aston Villa. He is playing it cagey about a career in management, though it is no secret that he would love to succeed Charlton one day and steer the Republic along that scenic route to



Brady: tonight may see the 'final' but not the end of an era

Hibbitt passes up final for Walsall

KENNY Hibbitt, the former Wolverhampton Wanderers midfield player, has been appointed the manager of Walsall, who were relegated to the fourth division at the end of the season (Steve Atkinson writes). He succeeds John Barnwell. He was dismissed.

The timing of Hibbitt's resignation as assistant to Gerry Francis at the third division champions, Bristol Rovers, was surprising: on Sunday, Rovers are at Wembley to contest the Leyland Daf Trophy final with Tranmere Rovers.

Hibbitt, aged 39, said: "I am proud to be back in the Midlands, where I had many happy years with Wolves. I feel the world of football begins here."

Hibbitt played more than 500 League games for Bradford Park Avenue, Wolves and Bristol Rovers.

• West Bromwich Albion fly to California to compete in the San Jose Cup today without their forward, Bannister, a recent £250,000 signing from Coventry. Bannister has torn his cruciate and will undergo surgery tomorrow.

In the absence of the injured Naylor, Albion will be forced to play their third-choice goalkeeper, YTS trainee Mark Ashton. The teenager, who has yet to make his first team appearance, faces a daunting task when Albion take on Real Madrid on Friday in a game to be televised live in the United States and Spain.

• Kevin Ratcliffe, of Everton, has pulled out of Wales's internationals with the World Cup qualifiers, Costa Rica, on Sunday. The central defender, who is touring the Far East with his club, has a heel injury. Jeff

Sandford warns of shortfall

By John Goodbody

THE chief executive of the Football League yesterday warned clubs and local authorities that the cost of implementing the recommendations of Lord Justice Taylor on ground improvements was "several times more" than the £130 million originally forecast.

Although the Government has cut the tax on football pools by 2½ per cent over the next five years, so releasing £100 million, and the Football Trust has pledged to give £70 million over the next 10 years, Arthur Sandford said there would be a "very large shortfall between the grant aid and the cost of implementing Taylor's recommendations."

Football clubs have been asked to complete a questionnaire from the League by the end of the month to identify the exact cost of making first

Sandford said that clubs were likely to put up the price of seats in

stadiums partly because the capacity of grounds would be cut through the installation of new divisions by 2000.

However, Sandford told a seminar at Wembley, organized by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, that many clubs, that the early figures, which range from £130 to £200 million, were an underestimate.

Clubs have been asked to work out the basic costs such as putting seats on terraces, with a cover, and what they would like to spend in implementing all the recommendations Taylor made in his report into the Hillsborough disaster. The League also wants to know what clubs are likely to do in the light of the financial constraints upon them.

Sandford said that clubs were likely to put up the price of seats in

Belgians rely on top clubs

By John Goodbody

BRUSSELS (Reuters) — Guy Thyss, the Belgian coach, has named three seasoned campaigners in his squad of 22 for the World Cup finals. But for all three — Jan Ceulemans, Eric Gerets and Leo Clijsters — it will mark the end their international careers, as they are well into their thirties and have indicated they will follow the example of Thyss and bid farewell to the national team after the finals.

Thys has built his squad around Belgium's three most successful teams — Club Bruges, Anderlecht and Mechelen — which provide 15 players, but has taken the precaution of naming two men for every position in the team.

The only surprises were the absences of the Anderlecht forward, Luc Nilis, and the Antwerp defender, Nico Broekx.

BELGIUM: Goalkeepers: M Preud'homme, F Dewolfe, G Bodart. Defenders: G. Geens, G. Grun, N. Denayer, J. De Bruyne, J. De Vlaeminck, P. Pivote, M. De Bruyne, F. Van der Elst, B. Versavel, M. Emmer, P. Vervoort, B. Sels, L. Etienne, K. Verhaeghe, N. Castelein, M. Winters, M. Vanderveld, N. Cleemans, M. Winters.

• The United States have named a young squad — average age 23 — for the country's first appearance in the finals for 40 years. Bob Gangler, the coach, sprung no surprises in naming his squad of 22 which will be led by Mike Windischmann.

After losing 10 to Ireland on April 25, Lohmanovskiy is determined to stop fielding experimental teams. "I have to see that everything is working well," he said, before travelling to Israel.

Nine of the Soviet squad come from his own club, Dynamo Kiev, including Alexei Mikhalevich, back from a knee operation, Genady Litovchenko, Vasily Rats, Oleg Kuznetsov and Oleg Protasov. The United States' first team is K. Kollar, T. Moore, D. Vande, D. Amstrong, M. Babcock, J. Doyle, P. Kinsella, J. Kinsella, M. Vassallo, B. McMillan, B. Biss, P. Caligari, N. Covone, J. Harkes, C. Henderson, T. Rasmussen, S. Pernar, J. E. Blom, J. Murray, C. Suttor, P. Verma, E. Wymore.

Regatta to profit by change

By Malcolm McKeag

A NEW course design, a re-appraised invitation list and an altogether leaner organization are features of this year's Royal Lymington Cup, which begins today in Christchurch Bay.

Still the premier match race tournament in the country, the event has changed from the format which simply grew and grew, culminating last year in the club hosting the world championship, with 10 of the world's best skippers entered for the solo fleet of 500.

For this regatta, the opportunity has been taken to bring the event back from the stratosphere, although it will still require 200 helpers to provide racing for the 10 invited skippers and their crews. Three Britons — Eddie Warden-Owen, Titch Blachford and David Bedford — are among them.

Since the establishment of a professional international circuit, invitations to the Lymington have inevitably gone to the top-ranked sailors, creating a self-perpetuating clique. The organizers saw the opportunity to open things up.

The internationally adopted leeward-finish course will also be tried for the first time at an important British event. As standards have risen, many skippers have become daring, with little or no changing of places. The new course is intended to enliven them.

Tolkien to lead the challenge

By Barry Pickthall

THIRTY-TWO solo skippers, including five from Britain, have signed to compete in the 26,000 mile BOC Challenge, the three-stop, singlehanded round the world race starting from Newport, Rhode Island, on September 15.

British hopes in the 15-strong premier 60ft class will rest with Richard Tolkien, who has entered a purpose-built monohull designed by Philip Morris. Those ranged against him include the Frenchman Philippe Jeantot, who has won the two previous races.

In class II (40ft to 50ft) Britain will be represented by John Hall (Spirit of Ipswich) and Alan Wyndham (Tidwell), sailing the Chuck Payne designed Sif.

The Corinthian class for un-sponsored entries has attracted Harry Mitchell, a retired garage engineer from Portsmouth who ran around in New Zealand in the last race.

He is returning to compete "for personal business" and is joined by Robin Davis, from Cornwall, who failed to reach the money last time. Prize-money amounts to some £250,000.

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GOLF

Cheshire show resolve

By John Watson

CHESHIRE'S holders, produced a resolute display to overcome the host county, Northumberland, 6-3 and with Lancashire, remained one of only two unbeaten sides after the second series of games in the northern women's counties championship at Hexham yesterday (a Special Correspondent writes).

Already, Cheshire's game against Lancashire on the final day looks likely to decide the outcome of the title.

Cheshire established a one-point advantage over Northumberland in the foursomes before a thunderstorm halted play for 30 minutes.

Liz Fletcher, the England international, appeared likely to level matters for Northumberland when she stood up two on the Cheshire champion, Joanne Murray, after 12 holes.

EVENING RACING

Brighton

Gates open: 6.15 pm. 1. Coffey (J. Red), 11-12. 2. Boundary Row (J. Red), 11-12. 3. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 4. The Esplanade (C. Dalton), 11-12. 5. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 6. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 7. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 8. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 9. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 10. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 11. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 12. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 13. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 14. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 15. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 16. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 17. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 18. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 19. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 20. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 21. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 22. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 23. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 24. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 25. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 26. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 27. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 28. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 29. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 30. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 31. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 32. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 33. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 34. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 35. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 36. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 37. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 38. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 39. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 40. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 41. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 42. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 43. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 44. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 45. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 46. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 47. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 48. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 49. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 50. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 51. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 52. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 53. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 54. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 55. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 56. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 57. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 58. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 59. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 60. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 61. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 62. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 63. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 64. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 65. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 66. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 67. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 68. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 69. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 70. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 71. 1. Fisher & Paykel (B. Sels), 11-12. 72. 1. Fisher & Pay

SPORT

WEDNESDAY MAY 16 1990

Roxburgh's fine-tuning plan

By Roddy Forsyth

WHEREAS at this stage in the lead-up to one or two previous Scottish World Cup campaigns the dominant note was sounded by drum beaters for the cause, the present Scottish coach, Andy Roxburgh, has concentrated his attention on fine tuning, and in tonight's meeting with Egypt at Pittodrie he will continue to explore subtle variations on the theme which has been introduced in the previous preparatory fixtures.

"We want to try one or two things in this particular match, while taking into account the kind of game we think it will be," Roxburgh said yesterday. "Egypt are a team who have got good technique at the back, play possession football but are very quick on the counter-attack, the kind of thing we can expect to face when we meet Costa Rica in our first match in Italy."

"The players we most want to see in this match are in the main our more senior ones, people like Maurice Malpas, who has been out for a while because of injury, much like Gary Gillespie. Both of them simply need to be brought to the right pitch of match fitness. Then there is Davie Cooper and we are going to modify our system a little bit from the way we have been playing, in order to accommodate him."

From a Scottish point of view, the performance of Cooper will certainly be a principal source of interest against an Egyptian team which is attempting to gain first hand experience of the British style of football prior to the World Cup group matches with England and the Republic of Ireland.

"Cooper will be a floater during this one," Roxburgh said. "There will be times when he will play as an orthodox left winger and times when we will play off the front two of Durie and McCoist, although we will not use him through the centre."

This suggests that Cooper will be required to use both his unusually refined control, as well as his ability to shoot forcefully, in close support of the attacking pair. A sound performance at Pittodrie this evening will virtually guarantee Cooper his ticket to Genoa where he will not be expected, at the age of 34, to expend his restricted stamina over the full course of any

Today's teams

SCOTLAND: B Gunn (Norwich City), S McKinnon (Aberdeen), R Gough (Farnborough), G Gillespie (Liverpool), A McLeish (Aberdeen), M Hayes (Dundee United), P McLean (Colchester), J McPhee (Aberdeen), D Cooper (Motherwell), A McColl (Preston), G Dunn (Chelsea).

EGYPT: A Shoukary (Al Ahly), H Hassan (Al Ahly), R Yassef (Al Ahly), M Ramzi (Al Ahly), H Yassin (Zamalek), M A Shams (SC Beira Mai), I Yousef (Zamalek), A El Kass (Zamalek), H Hassan (El Ahly), G Al Hamed (Zamalek).

game. Accordingly, it will not be a surprise if he is substituted in the later stages against the Egyptians.

Maurice Johnston, having been afflicted with a stomach ailment on Rangers' holiday trip to Spain last week, will be replaced in the attack by Gordon Durie, who last partnered Ally McCoist in Scotland's World Cup qualifying match in Zagreb, where the Chelsea forward scored Scotland's goal in a 3-1 defeat.

Roxburgh has expressed concern that certain players, McCoist amongst them, are suffering from severe fatigue after a demanding season but the Rangers' player, who is rarely short of ebullience, appeared yesterday to be fully regenerated by his short sojourn in the Iberian sun.

Gunn, of Norwich City, gets an opportunity to play in goal for his country at the club ground where he was, for some time, forced to play the understudy role to Jim Leighton. Gunn's presence, and the fact that the Aberdeen trio of McKinnon, McLeish and Dunn will be allowed to parade their newly acquired Scottish Cup, presumably when Celtic's McStay is absent from the vicinity, will guarantee a capacity crowd.

The press box, too, will be fully subscribed because of the English contingent, in town to take the measure of Egypt as opponents.

They will no doubt be gratified to discover that the Egyptian manager, Mohammed El Gohary, believes that the only possible winners of this World Cup will be one of six from Italy, West Germany, Brazil, Argentina, the Netherlands and England, although any pleasure in his predictions must be tempered by the fact that El Gohary also thinks that each of these teams has previously won the trophy; this is not true in the case of the Dutch.

Arsenal consider action

ARSENAL are considering taking disciplinary action against five players, Nigel Winterburn, the England left back, Paul Merson, Kevin Richardson, Perry Groves and Steve Bould, for a breach of club rules (Dennis Sinyi writes).

The players are believed to have been caught drinking on the evening before Arsenal's



Side by side: Scotland's players led by Durie (left) and Gillespie (right) in training at Aberdeen yesterday

Egypt want respect, not reward

By a Special Correspondent

ENGLAND'S highly-paid footballers may be more than a little surprised to learn the qualifying group contenders.

"When we reach Sardinia I will have had only four months to turn my players into professionals. I have 25 players with me and they are either amateurs or part-time. I have taken them away from their jobs and from colleges and schools to represent their country," el Gohary said.

El Gohary has a detailed nine-match programme on his agenda before opening against the Dutch in Palermo.

"We want world-wide respect and we have the opportunity of appearing in our first finals for 56 years. We are looking to use these as a

stepping-stone to give ourselves a name in world football."

A pedigree is already being printed following goalless draws with Denmark, Austria and South Korea and a 1-0 win over Czechoslovakia. The only blemish so far has been a 3-1 defeat by Romania, a result which led to el Gohary wanting to quit.

Scotland would do well to note this determination as the Egyptians are clearly out to make their mark.

"Scotland are aggressive. I admire their spirit and this game will be helpful for when we play against England in Cagliari. The England team has changed a bit over the last year and they have altered

Coppell is still undecided

STEVE Coppell, the Crystal Palace manager, has added the utility player, Alex Dyer, to his squad for the FA Cup final replay against Manchester United tomorrow.

Dyer is the only addition to the 17 on duty for Saturday's game, which finished 3-3 after extra time. Coppell, though, is unlikely to make many changes to his side.

He has still to decide whether Wright, who came on in the seventieth minute at Wembley and scored twice, will start the match, or again be a substitute.

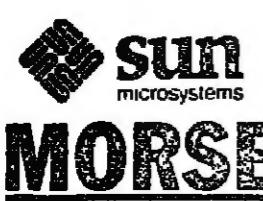
"I will probably leave it until the last minute again before announcing my decision," Coppell said. "I think if I announced that Wright was playing, then United would make their plans accordingly, but if I don't say anything they won't know what is going on."

Manchester United, meanwhile, are still waiting for news of Pallister's ankle injury before naming their side. Their manager, Alex Ferguson, said: "It's still touch and go for Gary. We will wait as long as we can for him, up to Thursday. He had treatment yesterday, and if we can get him jogging a bit then his chances will be brighter."

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A step on the ladder

JACKIE Stewart, the former Formula One world champion, announced yesterday a "staircase for talent" which he hopes will take young racing drivers to the top.

Speaking at the opening of the new Paul Stewart Racing headquarters, he said: "I'm proud to offer young drivers, engineers and managers the chance to join a team in the junior categories of racing and progress through to the top international formulas."

On his marks

Jon Ridgeon, the 1987 world champion 110 metres hurdles silver medal winner, makes his season's debut at Croydon on Sunday.



Stewart: opening doors

Missing miles

Britain's three main professional cycling teams, who are having to rely on one-hour city-centre events as their preparation for the Milk Race, have been robbed of valuable racing miles by the cancellation of this weekend's 100-mile Tour of Delyn.

Testing time

East Berlin (Reuter) — Leading East and West German swimmers have agreed to undergo voluntary drug testing three times a year in the hope of disproving rumours that sportsmen and women from both states have used performance-aiding drugs.

Lewis steps in

Lennox Lewis, the unbeaten heavyweight, will box against Phil Brown, of the United States, at Sheffield City Hall on Sunday as a replacement for Alfonso Ratiff.

Sailing home

Henk de Veld, who set out from Falmouth last December to break the record for solo circumnavigation, arrived back yesterday nine days outside his original target.

A return leg in need of an iron hand

By Louise Taylor

THE first leg of the second division play-off between Sunderland and Newcastle United produced six bookings, one sending-off and no goals, so both clubs will be eager to improve on their performances when they meet again at St James' Park tonight.

A strict referee than Vic Callow would have booked more offenders and Paul Hardiman, of Sunderland, would not have been the only man to have a red card waved in his face.

Hardiman was dismissed for kicking Burridge, the Newcastle goalkeeper, after missing an injury-time penalty and is automatically suspended for the remainder of Sunderland's involvement in the play-offs.

It is not clear who will take his place on the left side of midfield. Anthony Cullen, who was rejected by Newcastle two years ago, would relish the chance. He still lives on Tyneside and is further motivated by threats made by Newcastle supporters.

"I have had a lot of hassle," he said. "Before the last derby in February we had to call the police out at 2am."

Such is the rivalry between supporters of the two clubs that Gordon Armstrong, who also lives in Newcastle, has

Swindon favourites despite the caution

By Steve Acteson

SWINDON Town hold a 2-1 lead going into the second leg of their second division play-off match with Blackburn Rovers in their own backyard, the County Ground, in Whitemoor.

Bates said: "This has never affected the players. It is all forgotten when they are out on the pitch; all they are thinking about then is winning. We have been confident all season, we have played some tremendous football and made friends all over the country and I honestly believe that most teams that we have played would like to see us go up because we deserve to go up."

But despite also having the psychological advantages of having won at Blackburn's Ewood Park on Sunday the Swindon players will certainly not believe that a place in the final against either Sunderland or Newcastle United is already a foregone conclusion.

Chic Bates, the assistant to Swindon's manager, Ossie Ardiles, reported no injury problems yesterday, the only question mark being over the choice of the substitutes, from Simpson, Hockaday, Close and Cornwall.

Bates said however: "We seem to have done the hard work by winning up there but I would hope we are too experienced to think we are already through."

"To be honest we are expecting a much harder game than on Sunday and we are certainly expecting Blackburn to play a lot better."

For all Swindon's popularity on the pitch this season, for

Wembley beckons for oldest and youngest

MAIDSTONE United and Notts County, the youngest and oldest members of the Football League respectively, will have a first taste of Wembley in mind as the first stage of the play-off competitions reach their climax tonight (Steve Acteson writes).

Maidstone had Gail's 27th goal of the season to thank for a 1-1 draw at Cambridge United. A 0-0 draw tonight at Watling Street, Dartford, will see Maidstone through on the away-goals rule.

Had Gail's shooting been sharper, Maidstone would be in a commanding position, for they were much the superior team, especially after Lillis had been replaced in the second half by Sorrell, whom the Maidstone manager, Keith Peacock, may prefer from outset tonight.

The County manager, Neil Warnock, said: "From a manager's point of view, the play-offs are OK if you finish in sixth place in your division but it seems strange to me that we finished 18 points ahead of Bolton and now find ourselves on level terms with them."

Peacock, whose team won

only two of its first 13 games

but finished two points away

from automatic promotion, is still deprived of his Welsh international winger, Howard Pritchard, who has an ankle injury.

Notts County, who have

never played at Wembley in

their 105-year history, will do

so in the third division play-

off final if they win or draw 0-0 at home to Bolton Wanderers tonight. The teams resume at 1-1.

The County manager, Neil Warnock, said: "From a manager's point of view, the play-offs are OK if you finish in sixth place in your division but it seems strange to me that we finished 18 points ahead of Bolton and now find ourselves on level terms with them."

Leeds inflation

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